

Committee Debates Fate of Course XIII

By Marissa Vogt
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A committee formed last Sept. to investigate the possibility of merging the Department of Ocean Engineering (Course XIII) with two other departments recently reported its initial findings to Dean of Engineering Thomas L. Magnanti.

The purpose of the committee is "to look at the Ocean Engineering department and assess the strengths ... and to make recommendations about the organizational structure," said Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Professor Alan V. Oppenheim '61, chair of the committee.

Members of the committee were selected last summer and have been meeting since September to discuss the possibility of merging ocean engineering with the Department of Civil Engineering (Course I) or the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics (Course XVI).

"We're essentially mainly fact-finding at this point," Oppenheim said, calling a merger with Aero-Astro "only one of a variety of possibilities."

The committee presented its interim report a few weeks ago to Dean Magnanti and met with the entire Ocean Engineering department. The committee reported that

when it gives its final report to Magnanti in May, it will not give a recommendation but will instead present an evaluation of three possible choices, said Ocean Engineering Professor J. Kim Vandiver PhD '75.

The three probable options, Vandiver said, are mergers with one of two possible departments or staying an independent department. If Ocean Engineering does remain an independent department, there is a possibility that the undergraduate degree program will be removed, Vandiver said.

After the committee issues its final report in May, a decision will be made by Magnanti and other administrators.

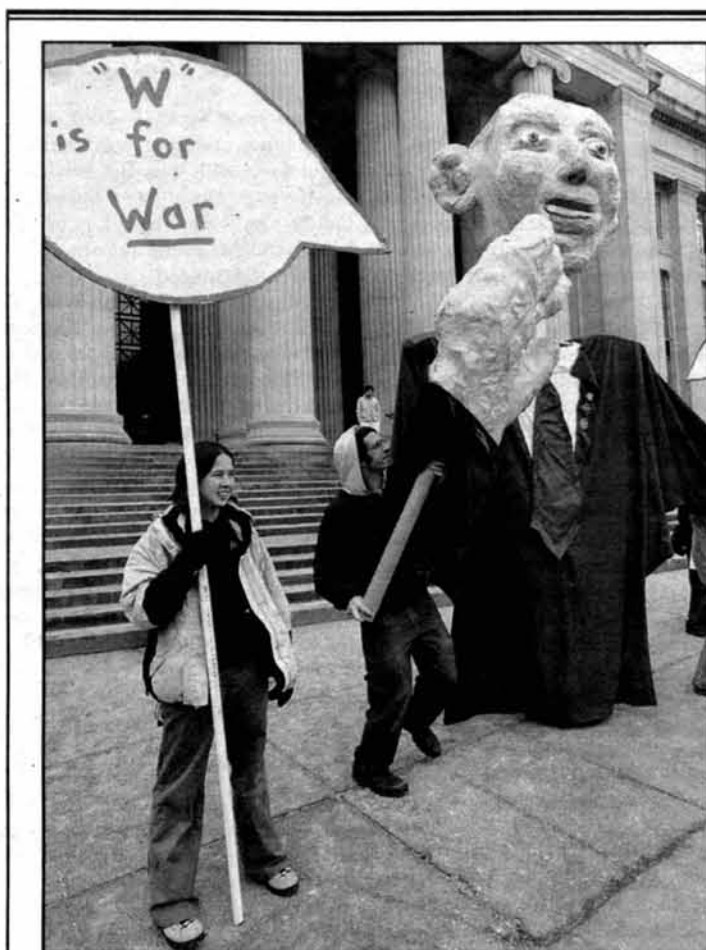
Magnanti was unavailable for comment.

SB program gets 'great evaluation'

An e-mail sent in January to students in the department by Professor Nicholas M. Patrikalakis PhD '83 gave students in the department preliminary results of the evaluation and said that "the OE SB program has received a great evaluation on its quality and educational effectiveness."

The e-mail quoted the evaluation by School of Engineering

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JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH
Teresa K. Yamana '04 holds a sign while Clayton M. Ward '97 dances with a papier-mache model of President Bush. The giant Bush puppet was constructed by members of the Anti-War Coalition. Members of the group staged a protest on the steps of 77 Massachusetts Ave. on Saturday.

Students React To Bush Ultimatum

By Nathan Collins
NEWS EDITOR

MIT students are anxious at best about an impending invasion of Iraq. At worst, they are angry and upset.

"This is demoralizing," said Laura Colón '04, echoing an anti-war sentiment visible on the faces of other students who watched U.S. President George W. Bush address the nation Monday night. But as Bush concluded his address, MIT students reacted with a mix of clapping and boos.

A crowd of nearly a hundred packed into the second floor television lounge in the Stratton Student Center to watch Bush declare that a war was imminent unless Saddam Hussein and other leaders left Iraq within 48 hours. If they do not leave, the United States and its allies will invade "at a time of our choosing," Bush said.

Anticipating fears that a war will spur terrorist attacks, Bush said that security had been increased at airports and on the coasts. The Homeland Security terror alert level was raised to orange, or "high," tonight, *The New York Times* reported; "We will not be intimidated by thugs and killers," Bush said.

"Except you," responded one audience member.

"It's insane to come back to the country" right now, said Nate Ele, who said he has just returned from working with the Peace Corp in Mozambique and is visiting his brother at MIT. War is "an enormous mistake," he said.

A few others suggested that a

War, Page 13

MBTA Proposes 25¢ Fare Hike for Bus, Subway

By Lauren E. LeBon
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Next winter, Boston commuters may be paying an extra twenty-five cents to use Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority buses and trains.

The MBTA has proposed to increase the price of public transportation fares by 25 cents, starting in January 2004.

The proposal suggests raising subway fare from \$1 to \$1.25 and bus fare from 75 cents to \$1.

The MIT Parking and Transportation Office has not yet been contacted by the MBTA to discuss new rates for subsidized T passes.

Bostonians protest rate increase

The new rates proposal comes in response to 4.7 percent drop in the

MBTA's revenue last year, as reported in a March 16 article in *The Boston Globe*.

Before the new rates are established, the MBTA will hold public hearings in the fall to discuss the changes.

Already, Boston commuters are protesting the new rate suggestions, saying that the MBTA has provided no new services to justify the

increase.

Protesters fear that the new rate increases will make the already severe traffic even worse. For example, the new phase of the Big Dig, which includes the opening of new lanes of I-93 on March 28, prompted Boston officials to urge commuters to use the T instead of drive.

Fare Hike, Page 19

Petition to Let 17-Year-Olds Vote Wins Approval Again

By Beckett W. Sterner
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The City of Cambridge has approved a new petition to allow 17-year-olds to vote in local elections.

The city council approved the petition on Feb. 24 with an 8-1 vote. The petition will now be sent to the Committee on Elections of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, which will then decide whether or not to pass it on to a general vote.

Council member and state representative Timothy J. Toomey Jr. said that the petition has strong local support, and that when the committee schedules a public hearing, "some of the individual councillors may come to testify" in its favor.

This is the second time that the city council has approved a petition to allow 17-year-olds to vote in local elections. The driving force

behind both petitions has been the Campaign for a Democratic Future, a group of students at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School.

The previous attempt was passed almost a year ago March 25, but was put under a study order by the legislature because it did not address the consequences of allowing the 17-year-olds to vote.

Cambridge youth push for vote

If the state were to approve the home rule petition, the City of Cambridge would become the first municipality in America to allow citizens under 18 to vote, mainly because of the efforts of teenagers in the group Campaign for a Democratic Future.

Noah Chevalier, the only member of the group present throughout

Voting, Page 14



DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH
Judith and Jason Disterhoft hold candles during a vigil in Central Square on Sunday night. Similar vigils were staged simultaneously all over the world to protest America's foreign policy regarding Iraq.



The latest
*Breath of
Fire* game is
a refreshing
change.
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OPINION

Atif Z. Qadir reflects on the sexual assault scandal at the Air Force Academy and the attitudes that made it possible.

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WORLD & NATION

Ten Palestinians Killed In Army Raids

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Israeli tanks, armored vehicles, and attack helicopters searching for Palestinian fighters invaded two communities in the Gaza Strip Monday and encountered stiff resistance, leading to fierce gun battles that killed 10 Palestinians, including a 4-year-old girl and two teen-age boys, Palestinian security sources and Israeli military officials said.

The bloodshed, on top of weeks of intensified fighting in the Gaza Strip, renewed concern that the 30-month-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict could remain volatile during any war between the United States and Iraq. In the 1991 Persian Gulf War, Israeli leaders bowed to U.S. requests not to inflame anti-U.S. and anti-Israeli sentiment. It remains unclear whether Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's hard-line government will adhere to such requests this time.

The Palestinian legislature met, meanwhile, in Ramallah, 12 miles north of Jerusalem on the West Bank, to consider the appointment of the Palestinians' first prime minister. Sharon and President Bush have said naming a prime minister with real power is a prerequisite to renewing ceasefire and peace talks. Last week Bush promised to release a U.S.-sponsored peace plan, called the "road map," as soon as the Palestinians appoint a "credible" prime minister, which Israeli and U.S. officials see as a way of sidelining the long-time Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, with whom they refuse to talk.

Higher Unemployment, Health Costs Threaten Medicare Fund

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The long-term financial outlook for Social Security is somewhat brighter than a year ago, but increased unemployment and rising health-care costs have taken a toll on the Medicare program, government trustees reported Monday.

With many baby boomers set to begin retiring in eight years, the trustees predicted that the Medicare trust fund would run dry in 2026, four years earlier than last year's projection. They said the Social Security trust funds would not be exhausted until 2042, one year later than the previous prognosis.

Bush administration officials used the new reports to renew their calls for the introduction of private investment accounts to Social Security and managed-care plans to Medicare.

"As we continue to work together to keep Social Security strong and reliable, we must offer younger workers a chance to invest in retirement accounts that they will control and they will own," President Bush said in a statement.

Bill Seeks to Expand Pool For National Security Jobs

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A recent survey found that only 24 percent of job seekers believe the best opportunities for an engineering career are in the government. The departments of State and Defense struggle to hire and keep science and technology experts. Numerous agencies are short of translators and interpreters. Six large agencies that were moved into the Department of Homeland Security could lose roughly a quarter to half of their employees to retirement during the next five years.

In an effort to strengthen the government's recruitment and retention in the areas of science, math and foreign languages, a bipartisan group of senators has introduced legislation to expand the existing student loan repayment program for national security agencies and to create a job rotation program for mid-level employees holding national security jobs.

Bush Gives Hussein 48 Hours To Leave, Reassures Nation

By Dan Balz

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Ever since Sept. 11, 2001, there has been a seeming inevitability about a war with Iraq. But President Bush never could have imagined that he would find himself, as he did Monday night, on the eve of conflict with a world divided.

But if any of that troubled him, it was not apparent as he addressed the nation and the world from the White House. His 15-minute speech underscored that even in the face of international criticism he remains confident in the course he set out months ago to disarm Iraq by force — although his critics say he is oblivious to the dangers. This was not the subdued Bush who at his news conference two weeks ago went out of his way to avoid appearing to be in a rush to go to war as he tried to build support for a second

resolution at the U.N. Security Council. With the diplomatic phase over, this was a president far more direct in his language and assertive in defending the right to go to war against a country that, however dangerous, has not attacked the United States.

"Instead of drifting along toward tragedy," he said, "we will set a course toward safety. Before the day of horror can come, before it is too late to act, this danger will be removed."

Unprecedented as launching a pre-emptive attack might be, it fits comfortably into Bush's post-Sept. 11 construct of national security. Terrorism has left an indelible mark on his presidency and on the country and, he argued, justifies the dramatic steps he is about to undertake unless Iraqi President Saddam Hussein unexpectedly gives up power voluntarily in the next two days.

While he cited previous U.N. reso-

lutions to justify going to war, including two approved before the Persian Gulf War of 1991 and Resolution 1441, unanimously approved by the Security Council in November, he took as his clearest authority his constitutional oath to defend the U.S.

"The United States of America has the sovereign authority to use force in assuring its own national security," he said. "That duty falls to me, as commander in chief, by the oath I have sworn, by the oath I will keep."

Those kinds of arguments have not won him the support of other countries, as the administration's and Britain's inability to win support for a second resolution at the United Nations showed. But Bush refused Monday night to accept blame or concede failure. What happened, he said, was the fault of others "who share our assessment of the danger but not our resolve to meet it."

U.S. to Negotiate Capitulation Agreements With Iraqi Military

By Peter Baker

THE WASHINGTON POST

CAMP CAMMANDO, KUWAIT

Edging toward war, the U.S. military is trying to negotiate "capitulation agreements" with Iraqi commanders under which enemy troops would turn over most of their weapons and return to their barracks rather than be taken as prisoners of war, U.S. officers said Monday.

Under the agreements, Iraqi officers would be allowed to keep their sidearms and remain in charge of their units as long as they kept a promise to stay out of the battle. U.S. forces would then be free to march toward Baghdad without being bogged down by tens of thousands of prisoners.

The attempt to brush by as many Iraqi units as possible has emerged as one goal of a multifaceted invasion plan that officers here said could be executed any moment that President Bush gives the word. As that moment seemed to draw near, interviews in recent days with Lt. Gen. James Conway and other senior officers in the 1st Marine

Expeditionary Force and an attached British contingent provided a glimpse into a war room on the verge of battle.

Perhaps the biggest worry exhibited by field commanders was the potential of a chemical weapons attack. Marine officers said intelligence indicates President Saddam Hussein has given "release authority" to Iraq's regional military commanders and possibly down to corps commanders.

Marine commanders have identified three points where U.S. forces could come under fire from artillery shells or rockets loaded with nerve agents or chemicals: the moment they cross the border from Kuwait, the moment they cross the Euphrates River and the moment they genuinely threaten Baghdad.

Conway, the Marine commander here, said he believes his troops will face a particular threat of attack by weapons of mass destruction when they take on Saddam's elite divisions guarding Baghdad, the Iraqi capital.

"The period of greatest threat, to my way of thinking, is when we

would start to engage a Republican Guard unit," Conway said in the white, Astroturf-floored tent that serves as his office at the Marines' desert headquarters, about 25 miles northwest of Kuwait City and 25 miles south of the Iraqi border.

Seeking the capitulation accords, the U.S. side has been in communication with Iraqi commanders through radio, e-mail and intermediaries including past Iraqi defectors, according to U.S. officials in Washington. Asked if any Iraqi commanders had accepted the offer, Conway replied, "We're encouraged that could happen in some cases."

"Essentially they're out of the fight and we move on," said Conway, who will lead the largest ground force into Iraq if Bush orders an attack. "Their officers would be allowed to retain their sidearms to keep order and control. We think we afford them a certain amount of dignity in a situation like that, as opposed to standing around with their hands in their pockets in a POW camp. That's the way we'd much rather do business."

WEATHER

Back to Normal

By Efen Gutierrez

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

After a warm, beautiful weekend, a weak cold front entered the area late Monday night, bringing temperatures back to normal. The warm weather over the weekend was due to a high ridge pressure over the area which has now moved out into the Atlantic Ocean. High pressure usually brings warm weather to an area, because it limits the amount of cloud formation in the region. It does this within high pressure systems, air sinks. Clouds usually require rising air to begin forming.

The sunshine will continue until the end of the weekend, when a storm system currently situated in the Rocky Mountains will enter the area, bringing with it rain.

Extended Forecast

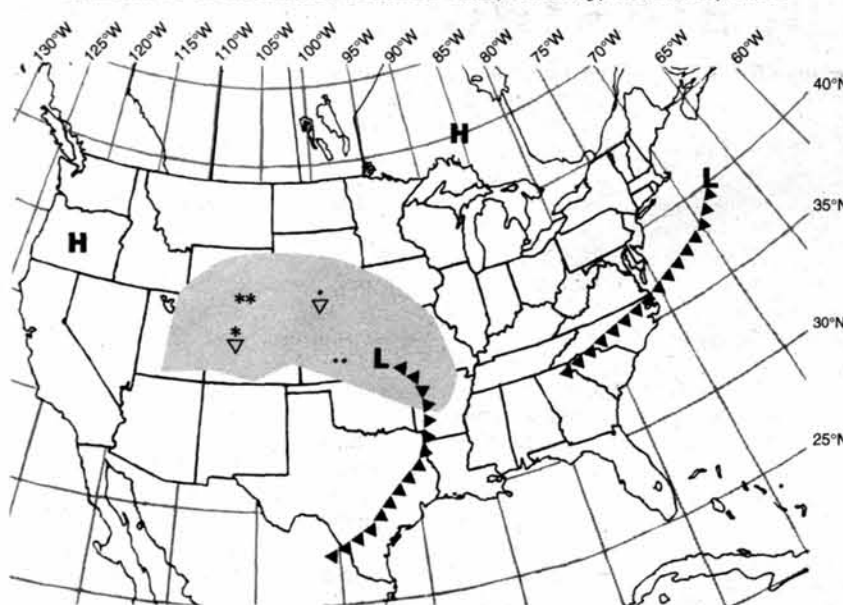
Today: Early clouds becoming clearer during the day. High 45°F (7°C)

Tonight: Clear. Low 29°F (-2°C)

Wednesday: Mostly sunny. High in the lower 40s F (4-6°C).

Thursday: Mostly cloudy. High in the mid-40s F (6-8°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, March 18, 2003



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain	Thunderstorm
Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	
		Heavy	

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

Respiratory Disease Outbreak Puzzles World Health Officials

By Rob Stein

THE WASHINGTON POST

Health authorities in North America, Asia and Europe Monday investigated possible new cases of a baffling, sometimes fatal respiratory disease that nations around the world are racing to contain.

The United States, Sweden, England, Germany, Cambodia, Hong Kong and Vietnam sought details about reports of more people suffering from pneumonia-like symptoms similar to those that have struck nearly 500 people worldwide, mostly in Asia, and killed at least nine, according to the World Health Organization. Possible cases were also reportedly under investigation in France, Israel and Slovenia among people who had recently traveled to Asia.

In the United States, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta was investigating 14 reports of people with similar symptoms, though officials said they are fairly certain that at least 10 of those cases are unrelated.

"It will not be surprising to us if we see cases in the United States," CDC Director Julie Gerberding said. "The current emerging threat is a wake-up call: We really do live in a global village. An emerging problem in one part of the world will soon be a problem to all of us."

Gerberding withheld all details about the possible cases.

Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said he briefed the White House Monday on the status of the outbreaks, while the CDC held a series of teleconferences with doctors' groups and state and local health officials to keep them abreast of developments and advise them on how to respond.

"The current outbreak of this infectious disease is of concern to everybody," Thompson said. "With the current ease of travel, there is a possibility of cases appearing in the United States."

David Heymann, head of communicable diseases for the WHO, said he is optimistic that the epi-

demic is being kept in check.

"I think we're containing it. I think we're finding the cases before they can cause serious outbreaks," he said. "I don't think this is going to spread rapidly."

Passengers at airports in Asia were being screened for flu-like symptoms, while in the United States officials were handing out cards to passengers coming off flights from Asia instructing them to watch out for symptoms.

As officials worked to identify cases and prevent infections, scientists intensified testing to try to identify the virus or other infectious microbe that was causing the illness, dubbed SARS, for severe acute respiratory syndrome.

The WHO announced Monday that it had established a "virtual laboratory" based in Geneva to coordinate the testing of blood and tissue samples at 11 laboratories in at least nine countries — the United States, France, China, Hong Kong, Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, Canada and Japan.

Ruling British Labor Party Leader Quits to Protest War Involvement

By Glenn Frankel

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

Robin Cook, the ruling Labor Party's parliamentary leader and a former foreign secretary, quit his Cabinet post Monday to protest Britain's involvement in imminent military action against Iraq without U.N. authorization.

"I cannot support a war without international agreement or domestic support," Cook told a crowded House of Commons Monday night in explaining his resignation, the first from the Cabinet of Prime Minister Tony Blair due to differences over war policy. Cook's departure highlighted the political vulnerability of Blair, who has been the United States' staunchest ally in the confrontation with Iraq despite widespread opposition in the British public and criticism from abroad.

A second Cabinet member, International Development Secretary Clare Short, was weighing whether to resign as well, and said she would announce her decision Tuesday morning, before the House of Commons holds a special day-long debate on the prospective war.

At that session, rebel lawmakers from Blair's party will seek to pass a motion condemning military

action in a last-ditch effort to keep Blair from ordering British forces to join a U.S.-led attack. Most observers expect Blair to muster a sizable majority, due to near-total support on this issue from the opposition Conservative Party.

In an effort to bolster support, Blair has been the prime mover behind the campaign in recent days to have the U.N. Security Council pass a resolution increasing pressure on Iraq. He and his government conceded defeat Monday, placing the blame both on Iraq for defying the U.N. mandate to disarm and on France for resisting military action.

Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott emerged from an emergency Cabinet meeting Monday afternoon to condemn France for declaring it would veto any Security Council resolution leading to war. "We deeply regret that French intransigence and the Iraqi noncompliance have left us with no option but to bring discussions to an end," he said in a statement.

The language was unusual for Blair's government, which until now has generally avoided anti-French rhetoric. But in recent days, officials have noted popular suspicion about French motives and

taken their diplomatic gloves off.

The government has also sought to win support for Blair's Iraq policy by emphasizing that he had helped persuade President Bush to renew efforts for a diplomatic breakthrough in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and by outlining plans for international economic development aid to a post-Hussein Iraq.

Officials also took the unusual step Monday of releasing a written opinion from Attorney General Peter Goldsmith that war against Iraq was legally justifiable even without a new U.N. resolution.

Cook got a rare standing ovation in the House of Commons Monday night after outlining the reasons for his resignation. He said none of the international institutions that Britain belonged to had endorsed military action. He said he believed Iraq posed no serious threat to British or U.S. security. And he said the Bush administration seemed more interested in replacing the government than in disarming the country.

"What has come to trouble me most over past weeks is the suspicion that if the hanging chads in Florida had gone the other way and Al Gore had been elected, we would not now be about to commit British troops," Cook told the lawmakers.

Study Finds Hormone Replacement Therapy Risks Greater Than Benefits

By Thomas H. Maugh II and Rosie Mestel

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A major new study of 16,000 women has found that hormone replacement therapy does not improve the quality of life for postmenopausal women, a finding that may sound the death knell for widespread use of a treatment once thought to be a panacea for women's ailments.

Last year, a related study indicated that the risk of heart disease and cancer associated with the use of combined estrogen-progestin treatment outweighed potential benefits, but many women continued to take the drugs because they believed it made them feel better overall.

The new study, however, gives the lie to those beliefs. Even among women who had a reduction in menopausal symptoms, quality of life measures were as high for women taking a placebo as for those taking the drugs, the researchers found.

"There is no role for hormone

therapy in the treatment of women without menopausal symptoms," said Dr. Deborah Grady of the University of California, San Francisco, who wrote an editorial accompanying the report, which will be published in the New England Journal of Medicine in two months. The report was released early because of its medical importance.

"The average woman will not experience an improvement in her quality of life by taking this pill," added Dr. Jennifer Hayes of the Baylor College of Medicine, who led the study. Quality of life includes a broad variety of factors, such as depression, cognitive functioning, sleep and sexual satisfaction, as opposed to the hot flashes and night sweats typical of menopause.

Hayes said that women can use the therapy to reduce the symptoms of menopause, but that they should use the lowest possible dose and stop taking the drugs as soon as possible.

Proponents remained unswayed by the new evidence, however.

"That's not true, it's not true," said Marie Lagano, founder and president of the American Menopause Foundation in New York City. "We've met women who have been on hormone therapy for 20 years. They look great and feel great, and have no intentions of stopping hormone therapy."

Dr. Alan Altman of the Harvard Medical School added: "Any healthcare provider who has treated postmenopausal women over the past 25 years knows that the clear benefit of individualized hormone replacement therapy to quality of life is indisputable."

Hayes countered, however, that "the perception of the benefits has far outstripped the research documenting those benefits."

Before the Women's Health Initiative study began, she said, researchers believed hormone therapy was beneficial to the heart and that the study would reveal how that benefit compared to the risks of therapy. What they found instead was a risk to the heart.

Stocks Climb as War Becomes More Likely

THE BALTIMORE SUN

Stock prices soared Monday as war with Iraq appeared imminent rather than uncertain and investors gained confidence that a U.S.-led invasion would be short and successful.

The Dow Jones industrial average, an index of 30-blue chip stocks, jumped 282.21 points, or 3.59 percent, to close at 8,141.92.

In the past four trading days, the Dow has gained 617.86 points, allowing it Monday to close above the 8,000 mark for the first time since Feb. 21.

The technology-laden Nasdaq composite index gained 51.94, or 3.88 percent, to 1,392.27. Standard & Poor's 500 Index, a broader measure of market performance, rose 29.52, or 3.54 percent, to 862.79.

Investors reacted to White House statements Monday that President Bush was abandoning diplomacy and giving Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein an ultimatum to leave Iraq voluntarily to avoid a military conflict.

Search for Key Shuttle Piece Intensifies

THE WASHINGTON POST

HOUSTON

Investigators are intensifying their search in a five square-mile area of the Utah/ Nevada border for what may be a golf ball-size piece of debris from the shuttle Columbia that could be the most telling clue so far into what caused the spacecraft's demise on Feb. 1.

The area in which the debris is thought to have fallen is mountainous and has had heavy snow since the shuttle tragedy, hampering searchers who are combing the area. Over the past few weeks, using a combination of video images, ground radar tracking, and mathematical modelling, scientists have increasingly narrowed the probable location, officials said Monday.

The piece of debris they are seeking may prove crucial to the independent board investigating the mishap. In a hearing Monday, experts testified that it would be extremely difficult to deduce what caused the left wing of the Columbia to heat up and come apart while the shuttle was more than 200,000 feet in the air from fragments that came off the spaceship well after the catastrophe started to unfold.

Since the tragedy on Feb. 1, a herculean search effort has failed to turn up any debris west of Texas. The westernmost pieces of debris found so far are two tiles that likely came off the orbiter as it was flying over New Mexico, said Paul Hill, NASA's Space Shuttle Flight Director. Video shot by amateur photographers shows debris coming off the orbiter as it passed over California, and investigation board member Sheila E. Widnall '60 said Monday that debris "must have fallen off in the ocean well before."

Baghdad Panicky as War Looms

THE WASHINGTON POST

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

After months of displaying business-as-usual calm even as legions of U.S. troops assembled within striking distance of Iraq, Baghdad residents showed signs of panic Monday at the prospect of an imminent American invasion and the lawlessness it may spark.

People cleared stores of bottled water and canned food, converted sacks of Iraqi currency into dollars and waited in long queues for gasoline. Merchants fearful of looting emptied their stores of electronics and designer clothing, while soldiers intensified work on trenches and removed sensitive files from government buildings. Cars stuffed with people and household possessions drove out of the city.

"Everyone is scared," said Khuder, an electronics salesman, said as a half-dozen laborers removed \$12,000 worth of televisions, refrigerators and air conditioners from his store in one of the city's tonier neighborhoods and loaded the merchandise on a pickup truck. "People know what will happen. They don't see anything but war in the future."

For months, this city of nearly 6 million people seemed impervious to the prospect of war. Residents boasted that American threats were an everyday occurrence. Many insisted an invasion never would come to pass. Even if it did, they predicted it would be similar to December 1998, when the United States fired cruise missiles at Baghdad for four nights, destroying several empty government buildings but doing little to affect the normal rhythms of life. People boasted that, in any case, stores would be stocked with food and filling stations with fuel.

Troops on War's Razor Edge

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MARINE STAGING AREA EIGHT, KUWAIT

At military encampments scattered throughout this hostile desert that separates Kuwait and Iraq, the same question is being asked in quiet, uncertain voices: What's it going to be like?

As war looms ever closer, church attendance here is up, nerves are fraying and untested Marines and soldiers — some barely out of high school — are seeking reassurance.

"The young ones are coming to me and asking 'Master Guns, what's it like?'" said Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sgt. Garsheo Black, a combat veteran of the Persian Gulf War. "I tell them: 'It's going to change your life, but you're going to get through it, just like I got through it and Marines have always gotten through it.'"

The faces here are young, earnest and still untouched by ironic detachment, cynicism and, for the most part, battle. Following orders is a given. President Bush says Saddam Hussein must go. End of discussion.

But some have yet to sort out the rush of emotions at being on the precipice of war: excitement, tedium and, inevitably, fear.

"I'm afraid of being killed," said Sgt. David Harriss, 21, of Clemson, S.C. "But I'm more afraid of not doing my job, of doing something that lets my buddies down and gets Marines injured."

They also worry about killing. Isn't it wrong? Will they be able to do it when the time comes? Many are turning to Lt. Col. Keil Gentry, 38, of Michigan, who's logged 17 years in the corps.

OPINION

Protest, But Don't Walk Out

Since the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441 last November, which promised serious consequences if Iraq failed to fully cooperate with the United Nations, the MIT community has witnessed and participated in a dramatic series of protests against military action in Iraq, and more particularly against unilateral U.S. action led by President

Bush. With his specific declaration that March 17 would provide a 'moment of truth' for the situation, Bush has insinuated that this long-anticipated military campaign against Saddam might finally begin. Groups across the country, including MIT's own Anti-War Coalition, to promise to walk out of class at 11:30 on the day war begins.

This war may provide a dramatic demonstration of the power of freedom and democracy. Democracy in Turkey has meant that a U.S. attempt to purchase military access to the nation has been stymied, in contrast to the unpopular acquiescence of unelected leaders in the rest of the region to our military presence. Protesters have freely and vocally expressed their dissent around the world, prompting *The New York Times* to declare public opinion a superpower alongside the United States; the free media have openly given voice to all opinions. Recent polls suggest that leaders Bush and Blair may be voted out of office for failing to follow the will of their constituents – for even if they refuse to change their course on hearing dissent from the masses, the ballot box empowers us, the masses, to pronounce judgment upon them. Indeed, in this open debate, silence and complicity are nowhere to be found.

Acting so that our voices are heard is our privilege in this nation, and it is vital to the functioning of our democracy that we not keep our opinions and dissents silent at this threshold to war. Yet we must differentiate between constructively participating in an important debate and acting out unthoughtfully in destructive rebellion. Choosing to protest by launching

an attack of nonparticipation in academic pursuits is an instance of the latter. It is a wholly inappropriate response to the start of war, and it reflects disturbing assumptions about civilized and reasonable means of disagreement in a free society. Designing a protest that is centered on the specific act of abandoning class makes a statement that the act of learning at college deserves attack.

College is among the final steps in a path leading students to be productive members of society. In our classrooms, our minds are expanded and we obtain the tools and abilities that enable us to live freely, prosperously, and responsibly. Because walking out on class brings the process to a grinding halt for all participants, it is an act of symbolic destruction; instead of breaking windows and burning buildings, the protesters will cripple classrooms. Turning to destruction when you do not get your way is simply not acceptable in any society that values reason.

MIT is doing its best to gracefully handle future protest on whatever scale it may come, and they're not doing a terrible job. Chancellor Clay's letter to the community, the work of a slightly nervous administration, outlines fairly tolerant guidelines for any walkout, noting that while students are free to leave class, they will be held accountable to their academic duties, and must complete all assignments and tests.

The decision to walk out on class is not simply an act of dissent against war; that intention can be and has been expressed via many constructive methods. Protests here in Boston have been frequent and vibrant, and individuals have vigorously debated the prospect of war in every newspaper. Students have access to other actions of equal impact that they may perform in protest; it is discouraging that they have chosen to attack classes specifically.

Disagreement cannot be an excuse to abandon reason for destruction as our means of interacting in society. Bringing classes to a halt, however, does precisely that.



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I WONDER WHY THE TELEMETRY FROM THE NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST IS SO ODD...



ANYTHING TO GET OUT



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Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, and an arts editor.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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Erratum

A Friday article ["Housing Office To Fund Channels on MIT Cable"] included an incomplete list from the Housing Office of channels to be added to the free section of MIT Cable. In addition to C-SPAN 2, MIT Cable will also include regular C-SPAN.

Rape in the Air Force

Atif Z. Qadir

Can you picture Anna Kournikova with a Kalashnikov? It is strange but timely mental image as the Russian Army recently announced a beauty contest intended to attract women to serve in the military. Aptly named "Beauty in Epaulets," new women recruits who participate are rated on their singing, comeliness, ballroom dancing, cooking, and accuracy with a rifle. A recent Associated Press picture of the event showed the shooting portion of the competition, held on the vaulted range of the elite Taman-skaya Division. In it, two smiling blondes are pointing their rifles, while a male counterpart stands by with a bleak expression matching the overcast weather.

Some may say that this beauty pageant is an earnest effort to attract females through traditionally female activities, but instead, this is a potent example of female objectification in a dominantly-male environment. The notion that this would attract women to the army is laughable in comparison to the gender-typified roles that it entrenches. First, it assumes that these "female" activities are genuinely enjoyed by the majority of females as opposed to them simply being societal mores. Second, it implicitly advertises the Army as an environment where beauty, singing, and cooking, among other things are valued. Winning an urban assault on separatists in Grozny would not be contingent on Kournikova-like curves or a performance of Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky, so perhaps they are more for the pleasure of the men that are "supposed" to be doing the real work.

As awkward as the Russian Army's approach to encouraging equal access to serve in the nation's military is, it draws an interesting parallel to the recent United States Air Force

Academy scandal, which involves the objectification of women as sexual challenges.

The Air Force's top general, John P. Jumper, recently declared the importance of cadets in the USAFA to "learn basics of mutual respect for each other." This was in response to a recent report to a Senate Panel that conceded that there had been 56 reported cases of sexual assault or rape against women at the academy in the past 10 years. This number is twice that of official reports from several weeks ago, and probably much lower than the real number of cases, as women were probably scared or ashamed to report their abuses.

One former cadet, who transferred to the University of Arizona, was raped by an older peer who offered to give her a ride to her dorm, and then attacked her in his car. She declared that although the "majority of women are raped and molested" there are no reports because of fear of an official investigation, shame, ridicule, retribution, or dismissal by the staid academy and its administration. Even more appalling is how this aggressive behavior has been effectively condoned by the USAFA. Of the 56 reported cases since 1995, only one male cadet faced a court-martial (but was later acquitted), and 8 have been expelled. The female cadet noted that she did not receive a response from the administration for 1 year, and was told that her file had "mysteriously disappeared."

There have been no investigations of cases before 1995 because the USAFA did not keep records of sexual crimes from 1976-1996, the first twenty years of women being a part of the community. It could only have been worse during that time; the mother of the female cadet, herself an alumnus of the USAFA and a 20-year veteran of the Air Force reported that as a student at the academy in the late 1970s, dozens of administrators and students wore yellow hats

emblazoned with "LCWB" (Last Class Without Bitches), representing the last all-male graduating class of 1979. A career Air Force General, she reported that the staunch bastion of "the good old boys" has been maintained, as she frequently sees LCWB hats, as well as the acronym written on signs and on license plates at academy sporting events. She reported being told "tough, deal with it" when she asked an adult male to take down a LCWB sign at a pep rally. Such widespread apathy from males involved with the academy is shamefully appropriate at an USAFA so divorced from reasonable cultural standards.

This oppressive environment has led to the quiet acquiescence of disillusioned upperclass women, who the female cadet noted told her to "expect to get raped. If it doesn't happen to you, you're one of the lucky ones. If you want to graduate, you don't tell, you just deal with it." The power that older students have over younger students, by which young males can be forced to coax female counterparts into situations that facilitate sexual exploitation, perpetuates this oppressive system. This cadet's report was "lost" and only received a response from the USAFA one year later, this March.

The only immediate changes that have been a revision of living arrangements. This, the administration notes, "will reduce opportunities for sexual predators." This effectively creates an alibi for the real cause, which is the extremely perverse social climate and power structure that allows for such crimes. It is in fact trying to ameliorate the situation by removing the means, but not the compulsion which is rooted in the male-dominated, aggressive military environment.

The shameful Air Force sexual assault scandal has prompted similar investigations at other military institutions including the U.S. Naval

Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. Could we also draw parallels to the MIT community? Although MIT is the only elite American university to have always admitted women, it has traditionally been an extremely male-dominated environment because of its focus on engineering and science. This has encouraged the creation of gross gender stereotypes that are a reaction from male students who lack confidence, many unaccustomed to challenge in technical subjects, to countless females that are as intelligent or more so. Males feel threatened and invoke the trump card of admission rates ("you got in because you are a girl") without realizing the traditional societal preclusion of females from pursuing engineering and science. Another troubling notion is that MIT girls are "fat and ugly," troubling because males are not judged as critically by society in terms of appearance. Both are tools for males to reassert dominance over women, and are indicative of larger more flagrantly destructive patterns of male aggression.

These conditions point to the failure of traditionally male-dominated institutions like the USAFA, and perhaps MIT as well, to create a safe academic and social environment for women. It is ironic that last week in a news conference President Bush relayed his appreciation for the "commitment, idealism, and sacrifice" of American soldiers in confronting a dictator with a "long history of reckless aggression, and terrible crimes," while the USAFA, which prepares future leaders for the United States armed forces, condoned unthinkable oppression and violence against its own members. It is in fact these members that are charged to uphold the American ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice by participating in an invasion of Iraq, when they are not allowed it in their own nation.

Raise Taxes For the T

Vivek Rao

Start hoarding your subway tokens now; in a year or so, if the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has its way, fares on all subway and bus routes and some commuter rail lines will increase for the first time since 2000 and just the second time since 1991, all of which would make those small little coins worth \$1.25, instead of the current rate of \$1.00.

While the motives for this price hike no doubt lie in a genuine interest to help maintain and stimulate Boston-area public transportation, its potential net effect remains rather troubling. Though in the short term, the fare increase may indeed make the MBTA a more financially viable organization, its long term effects range from a decreased emphasis on mass transit to a disturbing system of the lower classes funding a larger proportion of public spending.

However, before pinpointing the flaws of the new MBTA proposal, it is only fair to elucidate the workings of the system. First, the Boston public transportation system remains one of the cheapest in the nation, and has been for quite some time. Throughout the 1980s and even 1990s, fares increased at a far slower rate than the average American transit system. Second, the MBTA is currently in the midst of what amounts to a financial crisis. With concurrent declines in ridership and government funding, the non-profit organization is laden with record debt levels.

If the T is to continue in service, major fiscal changes are necessary. The question is whether maintenance of the T merits such major changes. The answer is a resounding yes.

Founded in 1897, the MBTA system includes the nation's oldest subway, as well as far-reaching bus, boat, and above-ground train networks. The overall product is a relatively well-oiled machine that services roughly 600,000 commuters a day for a total of about 1.2 million trips. As a key component of Boston's historical and economic identity, the T should command a far better operational apparatus than the current one. Those who proposed the 2004 fare hike clearly understood this, but unfortunately, they went about the task at hand all wrong.

The most serious flaw in the proposal is that it only stands to decrease ridership. On a purely economic level, it may very well be true that given utility curves and supply and demands graphs and all that fun stuff, the MBTA can maximize its revenue by increasing fares by roughly 25%, even though such a markup will inevitably drive some previously loyal commuters away from public transportation.

Anyone with even a hint of a broader vision for mass transit and environmental preservation should understand that the T and other similar systems throughout the world should not be

overly tethered to fiscal concerns. One of the strengths of the MBTA is that its fares are affordable enough that a large percentage of Boston's working population opts for the T rather than the automobile. If we are truly concerned about saving our planet for future generations, then public transportation is of fundamental importance, and should be stressed and stimulated, relatively regardless of financial considerations.

You probably think my apparent disregard for economic realities means that I'm some sort of naïve idealist who feels the tree-hugging MBTA can carry on despite accruing massive debts. However, that is far from the truth. The financial burdens of the T cannot be ignored for much longer, and a solution must come via increased government spending, and if necessary, a corresponding tax increase.

There are some out there who feel that raising T prices amounts to nothing more than a tax hike. That is a bit simplistic. Instead, it essentially can be considered a new tax on those who ride the subway and buses on a regular basis. Of course, these are often the same people who cannot afford a car or parking — in other words, the lower and middle classes.

All of this must make new governor Mitt Romney very happy. The "George Bush of Massachusetts" is determined to slash government spending in order to balance the budget and decrease taxes, leaving concern for key state programs in the backseat. With Romney and other state policymakers failing to allocate more money directly to the MBTA, it was only a matter of time before the T was forced to raise fares in order to just break even. The net effect is that the new state government is returning money to the people through tax breaks, only to take it back via other means, among them more expensive T tokens. What this means is that whereas in the past, both rich and poor gave money to the state, which would then spend it for the public good, now the lower classes are being forced to pay for a larger and larger proportion of public spending.

There are two solutions that must be considered. The first is relatively overarching and would involve a general tax increase that would increase the state's budget and allow it to accommodate a wide range of crucial programs that are currently facing a money crunch. The second would be more directly aimed at alleviating the MBTA crisis, consisting of increasing highway tolls and gas taxes and directing the extra revenue toward the T to help pay for public transportation. If we really mean business about decreasing fossil fuel emissions and protecting the environment, then it is private transportation, rather than public, that must become less affordable. Make driving more expensive, keep MBTA fares where they are, and both the short-term economic and long-term philosophical goals of mass transit in the Commonwealth can live in peaceful coexistence.

Don't Touch That Blender

Jennifer Frank

There's lots of talk about diversity these days, both on college campuses and off. As the residence selection debate heats up again here at MIT, the diversity of the MIT living groups faces challenge. But before students go running to administrators claiming that their living groups are diverse environments, perhaps we need to revisit the definition of diversity they use. Much of the current clash on this topic can be attributed to the simple difference between "Diversity Within Options" and "Diversity Among Options." Cookie cutter definitions of diversity tend to call for some degree of homogenization, a.k.a. Diversity Within Options. However, the more effective form of diversity, in terms of actually allowing for unique viewpoints to be shared or expressed, is one that allows Diversity Among Options. It is this latter version of diversity that should be sought, and which MIT already has present in its living groups.

Imagine yourself sitting in a restaurant. You order your favorite meal, holding back on nothing. The waiter brings out your appetizers, your main course, complete with some sort of rich sauce, several side dishes, and a decadent dessert. You compliment the chef, and just as you are about to take your first bite, a hand reaches down, grabs your food, dumps it into a blender and turns the blender on high. A few seconds later, your totally homogenized milkshake of a meal is placed back in front of you for your dining ... pleasure. Suddenly you have been denied the individual experiences and pleasures that each original food item promised.

Such forced blending is akin to forcibly mixing everyone up in the residence halls and other living groups, and it does not allow for any distinct flavor to peek through. Critical mass must exist in order for that group to be active and express its unique characteristics. (Remember, the whole goal of diversity is to expose everyone to new experiences and views which differ from their own. Diversity challenges people to move beyond their own assumptions and grow as individuals.) The long-term effect of a watered down residence selection will be the ongoing homogenization of the living groups, or, at the very least, of the residence halls. This homogenization will be the death of the enormous wealth of cultures and experiences present in the student population. Imagine if every booth at the Infinite Buffet had been the exact same dish — what would have been the point? Where would the learning occur? If MIT wants to be a leader in all senses of the word, it needs to produce culturally literate students. Homogenization will make it nearly impossible to reach this goal.

But what about Diversity Within Options?

Why isn't it a viable option in this situation? Here's another way of looking at this issue: an non-white minority individual is raised in a predominantly white suburb. After 18 years being a minority here, she figures she can handle attending a predominantly white college. She is surprised when she finds it incredibly difficult to "fit in." What is the difference between her first 18 years and her college experience? When she was younger, she was only a minority for that part of the day when she was outside of her house. At the end of each day, she could return home and be a part of the majority. She had a comfort zone to which she could return.

Individuals need a comfort zone to return to on a regular basis in order to actually process new information and effectively learn from experiences, especially those that challenge one's current belief structure. When that girl got to college, she was suddenly a minority 100 percent of the time — far more stressful than being a minority for half or even three-quarters of the time.

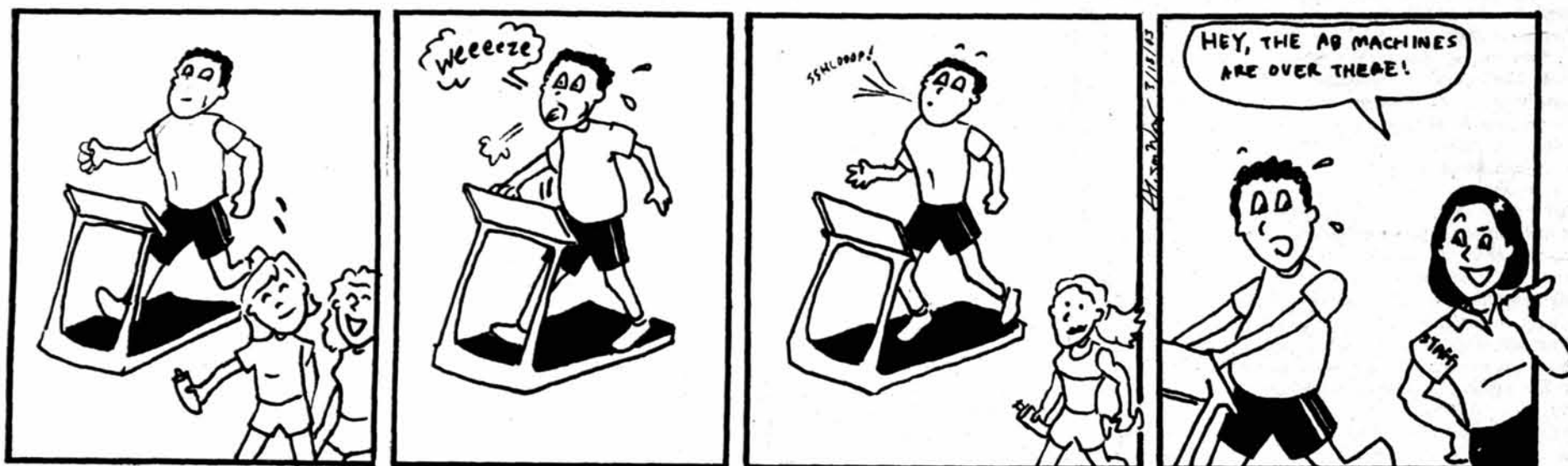
The minor self-segregation that occurs in the MIT living groups is an essential part of developing healthy individuals. The comfort zone created in the living groups allows the average introverted or socially non-conformist student to grow at a comfortable pace. As long as members of the MIT community continue to ensure that students don't become entirely dependent on their living groups, the self-segregation can be very healthy. The living groups need to be used as stepping stones to personal growth, and they currently do function that way for most people.

The MIT student population creates its own communities, rather than requiring hired staff to do it for them. (This is not to say that staff members aren't instrumental in this process, but rather that they are not the primary creators of the communities.) The living groups are almost entirely student run, with governing bodies and self-imposed house taxes to manage upkeep and social events. Students hold each other accountable for their actions, and upperclassmen mentor freshmen, both academically and emotionally.

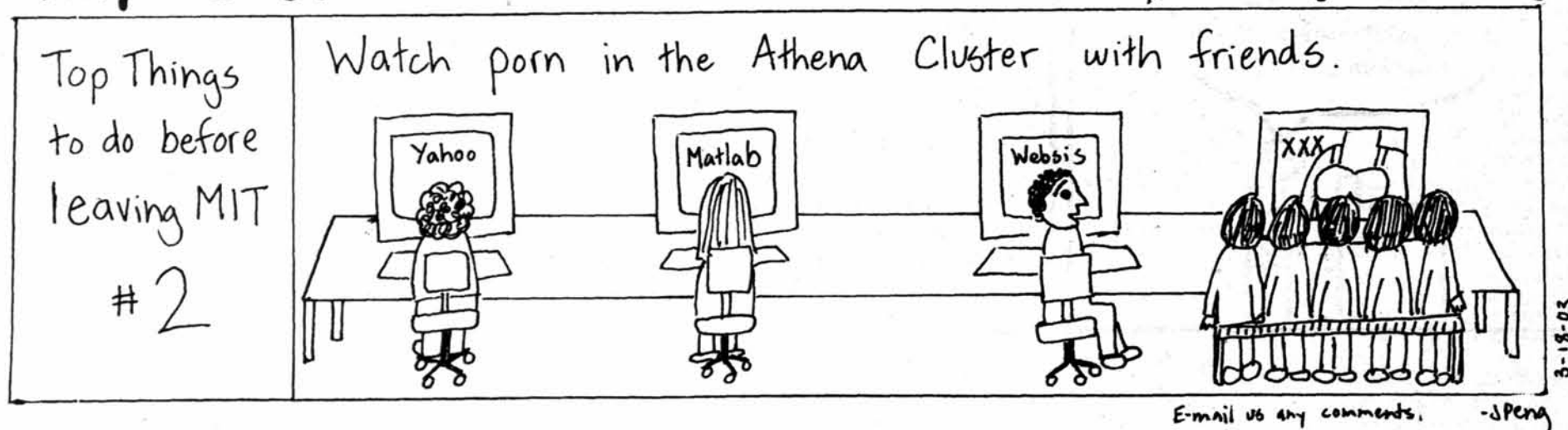
After two years of working within one of these more traditional housing systems and interacting with professionals from similar schools, I can safely say that MIT has successfully created the types of communities that other schools strive for but rarely achieve. MIT needs to embrace these successes and start viewing themselves at the head of the student affairs curve, rather than at the tail end of it. Our plate is already full of side dishes, a nice piece of turkey (or Tofurkey, for the vegetarians out there), and a rich, satisfying dessert. Let's save the milkshake for a summer treat from Tosci's.

Jennifer Frank '00 is a member of the MIT Corporation.

ALISON WONG



by, Qian Wang + Jennifer Peng

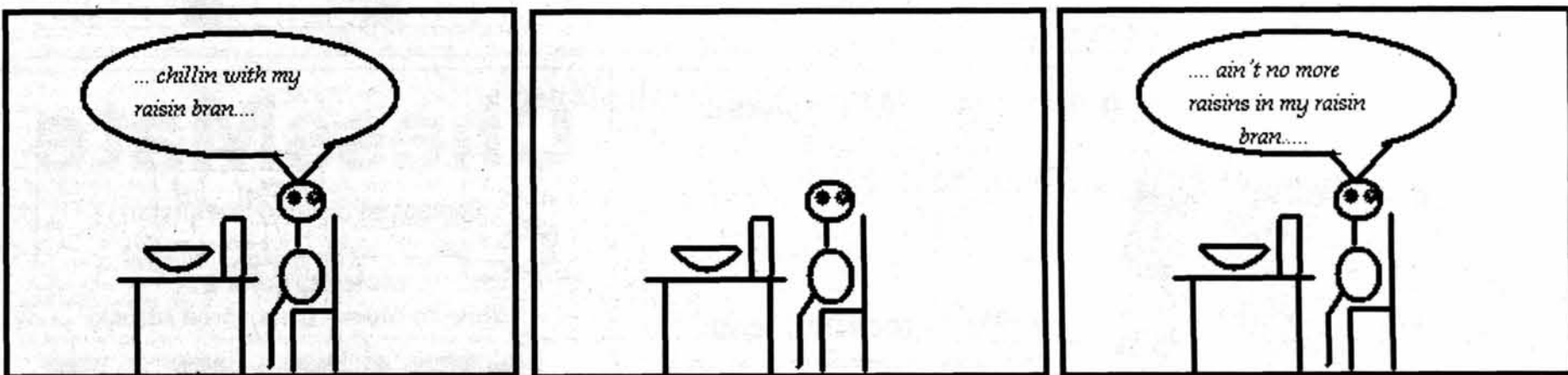




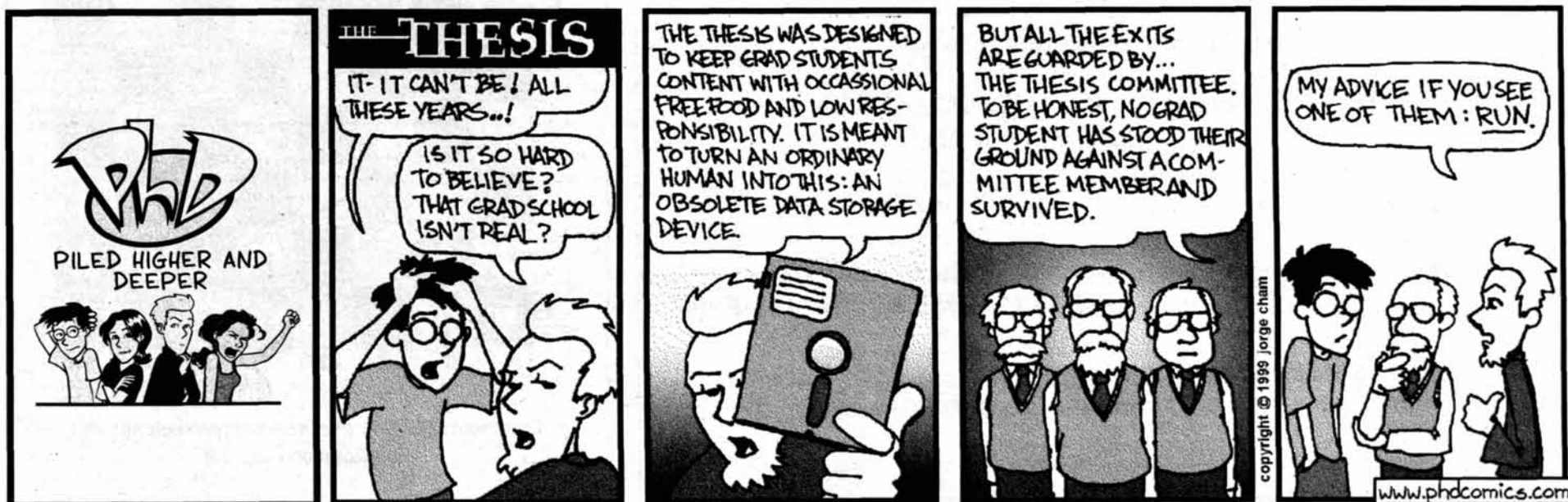
THE RICK AND CHESTER SHOW



Raisin Bran Comics Presents: Raisin Bran (A True Story)

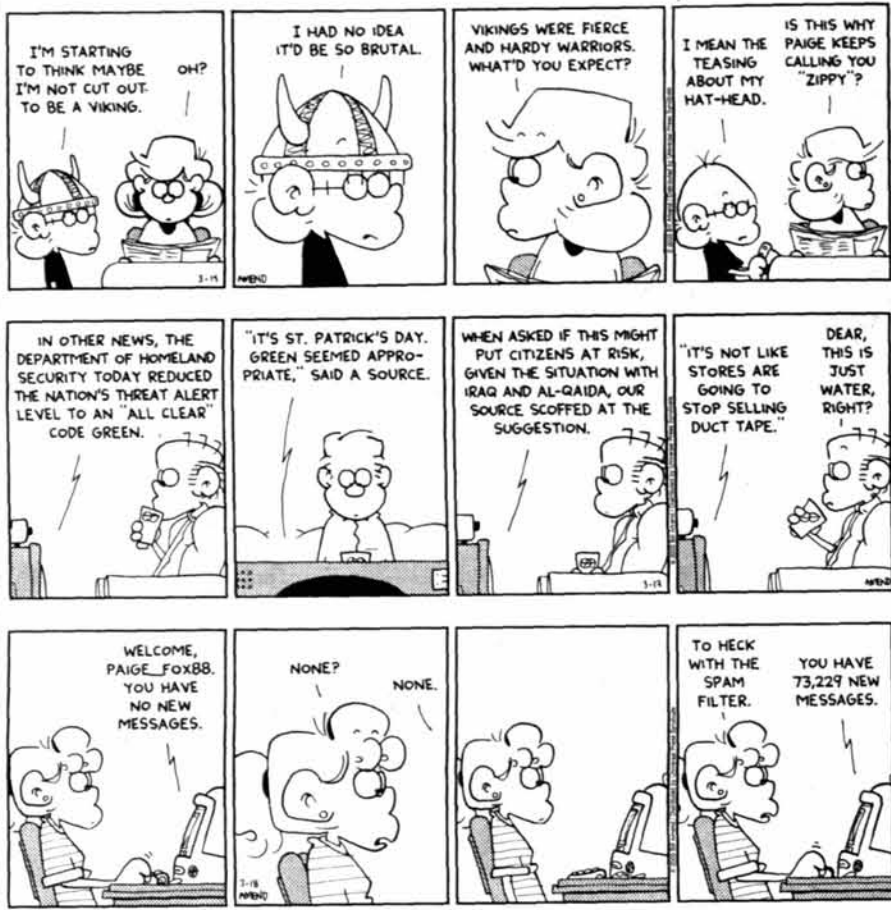


by Dirtymonk



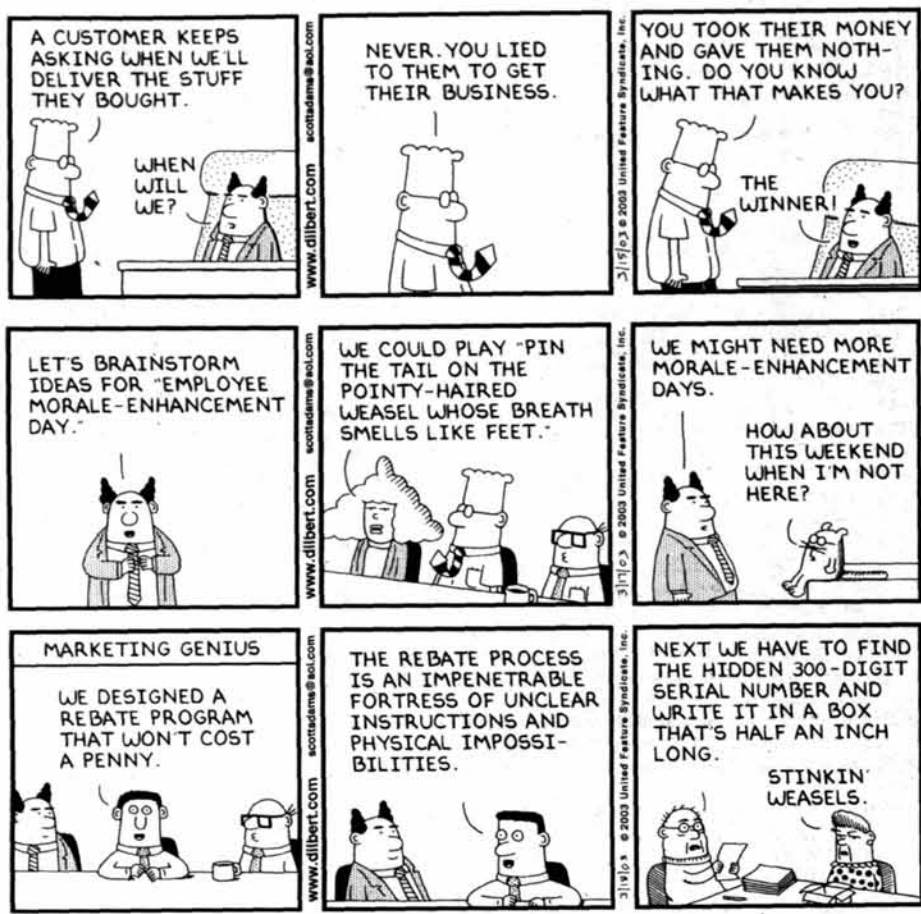
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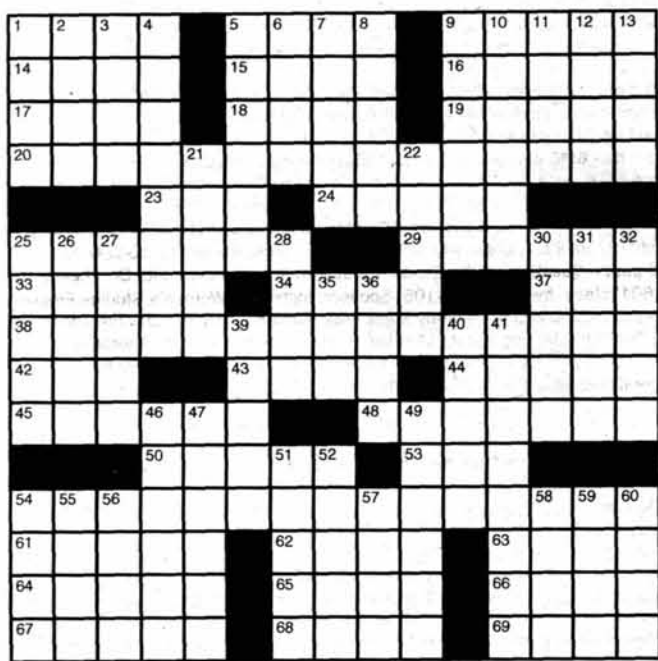
by Scott Adams



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 19

- ACROSS**
- 1 Otherwise
 - 5 Scads
 - 9 Lunar aspect
 - 14 Cow's mate
 - 15 Teasdale or Gilbert
 - 16 Make lawn repairs
 - 17 Morose
 - 18 Take a dip
 - 19 Cake cover
 - 20 Gift
 - 23 Owns
 - 24 Maker's sticker
 - 25 City near Rochester
 - 29 Port on the Black Sea
 - 33 Like a hermit
 - 34 Walk heavily
 - 37 Anthropology subject
 - 38 Gift
 - 42 Mother of Seth
 - 43 Images in rev.
 - 44 Grips
 - 45 Decorative tree
 - 48 Most avid
 - 50 Consumers
 - 53 "We ___ the World"
- DOWN**
- 1 Falls back
 - 2 Remarkable thing
 - 3 Disparaging remark
 - 4 Republican symbol
 - 5 Birthplace of St. Francis
 - 6 Statutes
 - 7 Window on a corbel
 - 8 MacDill AFB city
 - 9 Valued (at)
 - 10 Be an audience loudmouth
 - 11 Europe neighbor
 - 12 Tune
 - 13 Outskirts
- 21 Separate threads
 - 22 Dwelling
 - 25 Farmer's machine
 - 26 ___ and kicking
 - 27 Lugged
 - 28 Church part
 - 30 Funt's request
 - 31 "___ of Iwo Jima"
 - 32 Feeling of dread
 - 35 Ship's record
 - 36 City on the Irtysh River
 - 39 Concluded
 - 40 In that place
 - 41 With frankness
 - 46 Push or belly follower
 - 47 Theater employees
 - 49 Breadwinner
 - 51 Singer Lou
 - 52 Maple product
 - 54 Foundation
 - 55 Frosted
 - 56 Cryptic character
 - 57 South American country
 - 58 Sandusky's lake
 - 59 Comparable to a pin
 - 60 Garr of "Tootsie"



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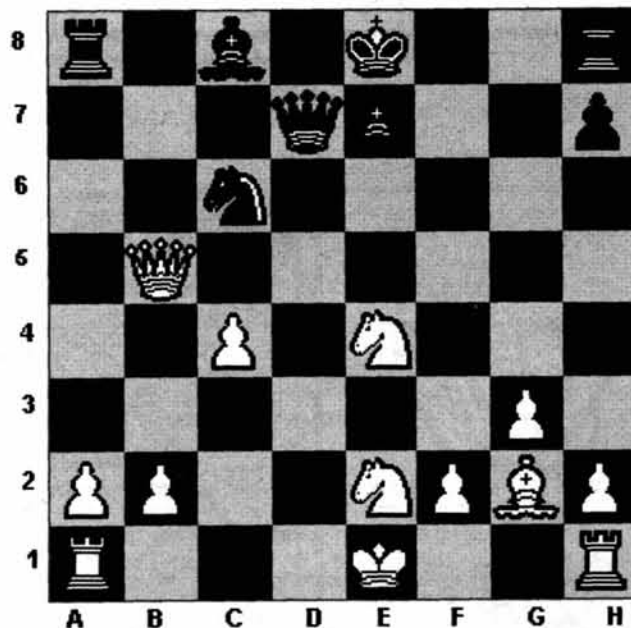
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Comments? E-mail chessmate@the-tech.mit.edu
Solutions on page 19

Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, March 18

12:00 a.m. - Awards Convocation - Call for Nominations. AWARDS CONVOCATION - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS. Don't Procrastinate - Nominate!! Go to <http://mit.edu/awards> for information on all the awards. Nominations deadline is March 21st. Questions??email awards@mit.edu or call Fran Miles @ 3-4051. Sponsor: Awards Convocation.

8:00 a.m. - EHSWeb Lab Registration Database. site review of the database. free. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Student Led Campus Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Informations Session. The Campus Tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

11:55 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - VCPA Lunch Meeting. Weekly lunch meeting sponsored by the MIT Venture Capital & Principal Investment Association. free. Room: Tang Center. Sponsor: MIT Venture Capital and Principal Investment (VCPA) Association, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Dreamweaver Quick Start. Dreamweaver is a powerful tool for creating and managing complex web sites. This session introduces users to the Dreamweaver interface and gives a brief overview of web publishing practices at MIT. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Astrology & the Scientific Revolution - A Reappraisal. Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquium. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Israel-Palestine: A Never-Ending Conflict? Dr. Alain Dieckhoff is a Research Fellow at the "Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales" and lectures in political sociology at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, France. His main research field is politics and society in contemporary Israel. He also works on politics and culture in contemporary nationalism. The lecture will be chaired by Jeremy Pressman, Fellow, KSG, Harvard. free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: MIT France Program.

12:00 p.m. - Boston/Cambridge Collegiate Rally. Affirmative Action Rally and March on Mass Ave. Guest speakers at MIT Student Center followed by march into Boston to show our support for civil rights. free. Room: Student Center and Mass. Ave. Sponsor: Black Students' Union.

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Center for Theoretical Physics - Nuclear Theory Seminar. "Chiral Perturbation Theory for Staggered Fermions: Theory and Results." free. Room: Center for Theoretical Physics, Building 6, Third Floor Seminar Room. Sponsor: Laboratory for Nuclear Science.

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Metastability and Microstructure in Structural Phase Transformations. Physical Mathematics Seminar. free. Room: Building 2, Room 2-338. Sponsor: Physical Mathematics Seminar.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

4:00 p.m. - Softball vs. Wentworth Institute of Technology. free. Room: Briggs Field. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

4:00 p.m. - MIT Astrophysics Colloquium: CHUCK STEIDEL. "Baryonic Structure in the High Redshift Universe." free. Room: MIT Center for Space Research, Marlar Lounge, 37-252. Sponsor: Astrophysics.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - GTL Seminar Series. "Recent Advances in Bladed Disk Mistuning Research." free. Room: NOTE ROOM: 33-116. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.

5:00 p.m. - Women's Lacrosse vs. Gordon College. free. Room: Jack Barry Turf. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Job Search Skills for International Students. In this workshop, we will discuss the job search process for international students. We will review: barriers of the job search; interviewing strategies; resumes/cover letters protocol; job search strategies including how to find companies that hire internationals; resources to assist in your job search. free. Room: 4-270. Sponsor: Career Services Office.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Colombia: the best kept secret in the world. Pedro Medina is a Colombian businessman, who has devoted most of his time to talk about the positive aspects of Colombia. free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: Colombian Students Association.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Law School Student Panel. This panel will provide students with the opportunity to hear from current law school students. Panelists will be MIT alumni in local area programs from their first year in school to graduates of law school. free. Room: 4-163. Sponsor: OCSA, Career Services Office.

6:30 p.m. - Architecture Lecture. "On Materials and Construction Technology." Lecture by Lawrence Speck '71, MArch '72, architect; University of Texas, Austin. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

7:00 p.m. - Questioning the Gender Paradigm. In conjunction with Dr. Phoebe Schnitzer's Psychology of Gender (SP.601) class. free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT, Women's Studies Program.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Tuesday Night Wine Flights. Every Tuesday night features a particular wine region or varietal. Tonight: TBA. Pub Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the basement of Ashdown House. Enter through the courtyard. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

Wednesday, March 19

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Solid-State Lasers at Q-Peak. EECS/RLE - Optics & Quantum Electronics Seminar Series. free. Room: Grier Room B, 38-401B. Sponsor: Optics.

12:00 p.m. - Curator's Talk: Paul Pfeiffer. Gallery talk with Jane Farver, presented in conjunction with exhibit on view Feb 6-April 6. free. Room: List Visual Arts Center (E15-109). Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Web Accessibility: Making Web Sites and Software Accessible to Persons with Disabilities. Learn about MIT's new policies and guidelines for insuring accessibility to online information and services for people with disabilities. This session shows examples of accessible and inaccessible design, and covers HTML coding techniques and tools that can help make your site or application ADA-compliant (i.e., in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and similar regulations). Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. MIT's resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgendered members of the community offers a place to hang out, various activities, and a lending library during its open hours. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

12:00 p.m. - Tour of MIT's Glass Lab. Get entranced...by the beauty, creativity and magic of the MIT Glass Lab. Housed in the basement of the Dome/Infinite Corridor in Building 4, the Glass Lab is known for its spectacular Glass Pumpkin Patch each autumn and intriguing creations on the windowsill of their home in 4-003. Connected with the Ceramics Processing and Research Lab (part of the Department of Materials Sciences and Engineering - Course 3 - a department in the School of Engineering), the Glass Lab gives "MIT students, and the MIT Community at-large, access to an unusual medium for creative expression. Glass can be used to explore the wide array of ideas, from the functional to the purely sculptural." Hosted by Peter Houk, Technical Instructor of the MIT Glass Lab, the one-hour tour will include the observance of an actual beginning-level glassblowing seminar. Space is limited. Tickets must be picked up in the MITAC Office, 50-005 by March 7th. free. Room: Glass Lab, Bldg. 4-003. Sponsor: MITAC.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - underwater observatories. free. Room: 5-314. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, 13SEAS.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Oceanography and Climate Sack Lunch Seminar. "Mechanisms of hemispherically symmetric climate variability". free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - spouses&partners@mit weekly meeting: The Threat of BioTerrorism and America's BioDefense Efforts. Gregory Klobentz, graduate student in the MIT Political Science Department, will share his expertise on this subject. free. Room: W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, MIT Medical.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Faculty Meeting. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Faculty Chair.

4:00 p.m. - Softball vs. Regis College. free. Room: Briggs Field. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - NYU Law School Presentation. Come hear about law school at NYU from a MIT alum. Joan Hon will be presenting on life at NYU, as well as answering questions about law school in general. free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: OCSA.

4:05 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Environmental Chemistry and Biology Seminar. The computation of molecular polarity and its role in contaminant transport analysis. free. Room: 48-316. Sponsor: Parsons Lab (general).

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Symmetry Classes of Alternating Sign Matrices. Reception at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. free. Room: Room 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - SOLAR POWER: TRENDS, TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIONS. THREE PERSPECTIVES: -SOLAR POWER AND THE HYDROGEN ECONOMY- Dan Reicher, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy, currently the executive vice president at Northern Power Systems. -NEW ENGLAND SOLAR POWER SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS- Edward Kern, President of Irradiance, Inc. and of the Solar Energy Business Association of New England. Formerly he founded Ascension Technology, which is now part of RWE Schott Solar. He is also a visiting research engineer at MIT's Laboratory for Energy and the Environment (LSEE). -INVENTING AND PRODUCING SOLAR CELLS- Emanuel Sachs, Fred Fort Flowers and Daniel Fort Flowers Professor of Mechanical Engineering, MIT and inventor of the Evergreen Solar String Ribbon. free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Environmental Programs Task Force, The Environment at MIT Web Site. Working Group on Recycling.

5:00 p.m. - AMP Student Recital. Electrical engineering and computer science graduate student Ole Nielsen, flute; Karen Harvey, piano. A program of 20th century French and American works by Copland, Jolivet and others. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Opening Reception: Kathleen Cammarata: Suppose a form. Abstract monotypes and paintings that explore the use of a circle in different contexts with emphasis on texture and form. Show on view March 19-April 24. free. Room: The Dean's Gallery, Sloan School of Management, Rm E52-466. Sponsor: The

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Dean's Gallery.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Winning Interview Techniques. Learn how to prepare effectively for a job interview and practice with your peers. Please register for this event at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/>. free. Sponsor: Career Services Office.

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Sangam-MIT FLL Movie. Movies screened as a part of MIT FLL course. Email was sent out on sangam-request@mit.edu. free. Room: Variable, was sent out in email. Sponsor: Sangam. MIT FLL.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Pelicula - Stand and Deliver. LUCHA invites you to come see the story of a dedicated teacher that inspires his dropout prone students to learn calculus to build up their self-esteem and do so well that they are accused of cheating in Stand and Deliver. free. Room: TBA. Sponsor: La Union Chicana Por Aztlan, Mes Latino.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Bible Study. Weekly Bible study held by the Baptist Student Fellowship. free. Sponsor: Baptist Student Fellowship, Baptist Campus Ministry.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - TMRC Build Time. These are our normal meeting times, when we build the layout!. free. Room: N52-118. Sponsor: Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRC).

7:30 p.m. - Ham Radio Exams. The MIT Radio Society's Radio Exam Team offers amateur radio exams on the penultimate Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in Room 1-150 (there are usually signs posted). This is the place to earn a new license or upgrade your existing license. Technician through Extra Class tests are offered. \$12. Room: TBD - See Signs @ 1-150. Sponsor: MIT Radio Society.

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - HTC Film Series: Wigstock. Documentary/Concert film covering the annual Drag festival in New York City. Highlights include a performance by drag diva, Ru Paul, and the infamous Lypsinca. . free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

8:00 p.m. - Weekly Wednesdays @ the Muddy Charles Pub. Meet your fellow social graduate students at the Muddy Charles Pub located in the Walker Memorial Building. What will be there for you? \$1 drafts, a variety of beers, wines and sodas, lots of free wings, Sox on the screen. Bring IDs. free. Room: Muddy Charles Pub. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents' Association, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter. TechLink, Wing It.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar - Nine Queens. Screening of a movie (Nine Queens, Argentina) followed by a discussion. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Swing Dancing. No partner required. Beginners welcome. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Lindy Hop Society.

10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. - LIVEmusic@theEAR: Signals and Systems. Pub Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the basement of Ashdown House. Enter through the courtyard. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

Thursday, March 20

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Working Group monthly meeting. Monthly meeting of the Working Group on Support Staff Issues. Topic: to be announced. Includes Task Group updates. free. Room: 34-401. Sponsor: Working Group on Support Staff Issues.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - PowerPoint Quick Start. PowerPoint makes it easy to jazz up your presentations. Get an introduction to what PowerPoint can do. Find out how to create slide shows. The session includes demonstrations of how to use drawing tools, graphics, and create handouts. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - MIT Chapel Concert: Glori-Collver Jacobson and Sharon Wayne, guitars. Music from Latin America: (Argentina, Venezuela, Brazil) and Spain. Composers include: Riera, Fleury, Cardoso, Villa Lobos, Granados, Albéniz, and De Falla. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

12:00 p.m. - authors@mit - Lenny Guarente - Ageless Quest. Ageless Quest is a personal, sometimes controversial, account of the pursuit of a genetic 'cure' for aging by an expert in the field. Aging has always been regarded as a highly complex process with many degenerative changes leading to the cessation of life. But recent research has identified a relatively simple mechanism that governs the pace of aging. Lenny Guarente's Ageless Quest is a scientific detective story for the baby boom generation. It offers an insider's view of an area of potentially astonishing high reward—and equally high risk. This event is sponsored by authors@mit, a series cosponsored by MIT Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. Ageless Quest is published by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2003. free. Room: MIT E25-111. Sponsor: The MIT Press Bookstore. MIT Libraries.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Weight Watchers at Work! free. Room: Women's Lounge-Room 8-219. Sponsor: Weight Watchers.

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - LBGT Student Support Group. A discussion and support group on topics relevant to LBGT students. Discussion varies depending on interest of participants. Professional facilitation provided. This SAFE and CONFIDENTIAL group is open to LBGT students at MIT. free. Room: 5-104. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT. Counseling and Support Services, Mental Health Service of MIT Medical.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Managing Diversity in Boston Public Housing: From Segregation to the New Immigrant City. Panel discussion with current and past BHA administrators Sandra Henriquez, David Cortiella, Harry Spence. free. Room: Rotch Library, 7-238. Sponsor: Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - T.B.A. free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Physics: X-Ray Astronomy. The Early Pioneering Years. Walter Lewin joined the X-ray Astronomy group at MIT in January 1966 when this new field went through a fascinating rapid growth and evolution. He will discuss the events that led to the discovery of the first extra-solar X-ray sources in 1962, and he will talk about some of the pioneering contributions made in the decade that followed. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Sampling on the Fly from Massive Data. ORC Spring Seminar Series. Seminar reception immediately following in the Philip M. Morse Reading Room, E40-106. free. Room: E56-270. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - David and Morgan - QIP. free. Sponsor: Physics Junior Lab Orals.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Counter-architectures: Squatting, Surfing and Marcel Duchamp. HTC Forum Series. Simon Leung was born in Hong Kong, lives in Los Angeles, and whenever he can, Brooklyn. His work has dealt with the following topics: the glory hole as teacher and vanishing point; the squatting body in the western metropolis; military desertion as askesis; and surfing in Southern California and Vietnam. His most recent project is "Proposal for The Side of the Mountain," an opera written in collaboration with Los Angeles composer Michael Webster, presented at the Santa Monica Museum of Art in 2002. Leung has exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago; the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art; the Generali Foundation, Vienna; the International Museum of Surfing, as well as various other museums, galleries, exhibition spaces, on streets, and in at least one garage and one closet. He has taught at UCLA, NYU, RISD, CalArts, New York City public high schools, and currently teaches in the Studio Art Department of the University of California, Irvine. He is co-editor of the forthcoming anthology "Theory in Contemporary Art: 1985-2002" (Blackwell, 2004). free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Teach-In #2. Teach-in's led by MIT Staff and Faculty to educate the community on what affirmative action means and why it was established in the first place. free. Room: 50-105 (Walker Memorial).

7:00 p.m. - Frida. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Persian new year. Celebrating Persian new year in the traditional Persian style, having new year pastries and dinner & dance party afterward. . free. Room: 24 th floor, Tang hall. Sponsor: Persian Students Association of MIT.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Panchatantra Class. Classes in Indian Folklore. free. Room: 4-144. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Sangam. South Asian Center.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Meditation and Discussion. Meditation and Discussion on Shantideva's Bodhicaryavatara. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Buddhist Association at MIT, Buddhist Community at MIT.

8:00 p.m. - MIT Symphony Orchestra Concert. John Harbison, guest conductor (<http://mit.edu/mta/www/music/resources/jharbison.html>). Brian Robison's "Imagined Corners"; Brahms' "Violin Concerto" with Rose Mary Harbison, soloist; Haydn's "Symphony No. 90"; Webern's Symphony MIT Professor John Harbison is one of America's most prominent composers. Among his principal works are three string quartets, three symphonies, the cantata "The Flight Into Egypt," which earned him a Pulitzer Prize in 1987, and three operas including "The Great Gatsby" commissioned by The Metropolitan Opera and premiered to great acclaim in December 1999. As conductor, Harbison has led a number of leading orchestras and chamber groups. From 1990 to 1992 he was Creative Chair with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, conducting music from Monteverdi to the present. In 1991, at the Ojai Festival, he led the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. \$3 at the door. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: MIT Symphony Orchestra (MITSO).

8:00 p.m. - Antony and Cleopatra. Shakespeare Ensemble production done in the round, with a chorus of "watchers" who circle the action, interacting and constantly judging. \$8, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Shakespeare Ensemble.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar- Dancer in the dark. Screening of a movie (Dancer in the dark, Lars von trier) followed by a discussion. Refreshments provided. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Coffee Hour. Food and drink - an Ashdown tradition. free. Room: Hulsizer Room (W1).

10:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - Movie Night. Movie and food - free for all!! free. Room: Big TV Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House.

10:00 p.m. - Frida. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

11:59 p.m. - Campus Disc Golf. Do you like tossing a disc? Do you enjoy friendly competition? Or if you're just up for midnight antics, then come on out! Meet outside the Student Center on the front steps, and don't forget to bring a disc! Don't hesitate to come, newcomers are always welcomed - We meet every Thursday at midnight. Questions, contact Daniel Turek, macgyver@mit.edu. bring your own disc!. Room: Student Center steps. Sponsor: Campus Disc Golf.

ARTS

CLASSICAL REVIEW

Drilling For Gold At the Wind Ensemble

Finally, the Full Version
Of the Ziporyn Concerto

By Bogdan Fedeles

STAFF WRITER

MIT Wind Ensemble
Kresge Auditorium
March 14, 8 p.m.

The MIT Wind Ensemble performed their first concert of the spring term Friday evening, enchanting a decent-sized audience with fresh performances of pieces old and new. The program included pieces by Jan Sweelinck, Kenneth Amis, Benjamin Britten, and Professor Evan Ziporyn, while the conducting duties were split between Frederick Harris Jr. and guest conductor Kenneth Amis. Overall, the concert was a pleasant and enjoyable musical experience; it lacked, however, a certain brilliance in some of the pieces.

The evening opened with Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck's "Ballo del granduca" (The Grand Duke's Ballet), an orchestral piece adapted for wind ensemble. Sweelinck's piece, written in 1589, is a delightful example of baroque art, rich in both the intricacies of fugal approach and imaginative folk-inspired melodies. The MIT Wind Ensemble delivered an impressive performance of this short piece. Their sound was well-rounded and forceful, highlighting the distinctive colors of each of the wind sections.

Benjamin Britten's "The Courtly Dances," an excerpt from his opera "Gloriana" arranged for wind ensemble, received a similarly inspired performance. The Wind Ensemble conveyed well the rustic feel of each of the Elizabethan dances, excelling especially in the percussion-heavy parts. The players' enthusiasm matched well the joyful and simplistic character of the piece. I found their performance good and even fiery in some passages.

The guest of the evening, composer Kenneth Amis, conducted two of his own pieces, "Driven!" and "The Art of Adagio." The latter piece, cast as a complex fugue, is an homage to J.S. Bach's "The Art of the Fugue," one of the most complex and complete treatments of the genre in the history of Western music.

The piece's dreamy beginning, where only solo winds share the counterpoint, sounded heartfelt and was in good balance with the climactic ending, which required a solid tutti. The Wind Ensemble showed good counterpoint abilities but fell a bit short in cohesion.

The other piece, "Driven!," is an incessantly moving melodic stream employing folk-like pulses that create the effervescent rhythmic drive hinted in the title. The ensemble's enthusiastic performance featured good dynamic contrasts and fervor, making up for a few transient inconsistencies in tempo in the piece's middle section.

The concert ended with Ziporyn's "Drill," a piece whose first movement received its premiere a year ago by the Wind Ensemble. The piece has grown well, since last year, more solid and more enchanting. The performance on Friday put a stronger accent on the unsettling percussion chords. More percussion instruments playing at the same time came out fresher and more intense. Ziporyn soloed his piece on the bass clarinet, with great agility and splendid technique, that was well matched in intensity and ardor by the rest of the wind ensemble.

Overall, the piece sounded very good, ready to become a cornerstone of the the Wind Ensemble's repertoire. An extra bonus: the ensemble plans to professionally record the work for release on a CD later on this year.

The next Wind Ensemble concert is on May 10, featuring pieces by George Gershwin, Michael Gandolfi, and Assistant Professor Brian Robison. Judging based on this concert, the ensemble's enthusiasm is sure to make it an event not to be missed.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Rockin' the Role-Playing Game Boat

Capcom's Newest 'Breath of Fire' Offering is a Refreshing Change of Pace

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Breath of Fire: Dragon Quarter
Published by Capcom
Made for the Sony Playstation 2
\$49.99

Anthing is good when taken in moderation. Also, change is good. And anything that moderately changes the stuck-in-the-mud role-playing game (RPG) genre is definitely good. The latest game in the *Breath of Fire* series doesn't fit the standard RPG mold — and it's for the better.

For one thing, monsters first appear on the field before battle begins. Random battles are becoming more of an annoyance (perhaps *Final Fantasy XI* will be the first *Final Fantasy* game to not have random battles.) Traps like meat and bombs can be used to lure or weaken monsters. All of this boils down to hitting the enemy before the fight starts so the player gets an extra turn. This encounter system helps spice things up before battle and gives the player a lot of variety.

The battle system has even more options and flexibility. Instead of simply choosing the "attack" option repeatedly, characters are placed in the same room in which they initiated combat. They must walk within range of their targets before they can attack. And even then, it still isn't a generic "attack" option. The player must choose one of the character's several attacks. If chosen in the right order, they combo, dealing more damage. The battle rewards more for experimentation and less for repetition.

The dragon powers take some getting used to, since they are not as easily abused as in previous *Breath of Fire* games. Dragon abilities, which deliver powerful blows that can

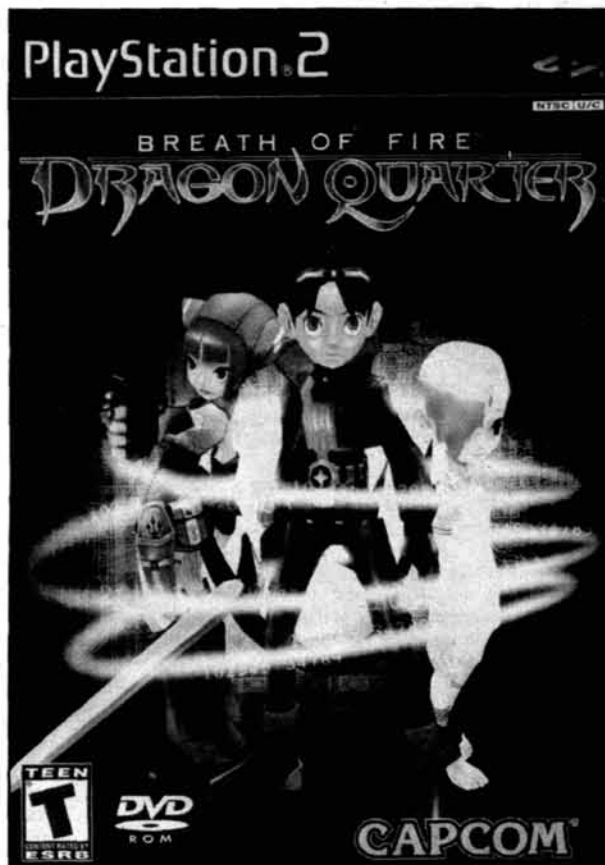
players to reserve their dragon powers for when they need it the most.

When playing through *Dragon Quarter*, though, repetition is the key. A single run through the game takes around twenty hours, which is very short by RPG standards. However, restarting the game at any point will retain bonus experience and equipment. This makes the second run-through easier than the first. When the game is finished, it grades the player's performance. This grade opens up new challenging areas to explore and new cutscenes to fill in the plot holes left behind from the previous run through.

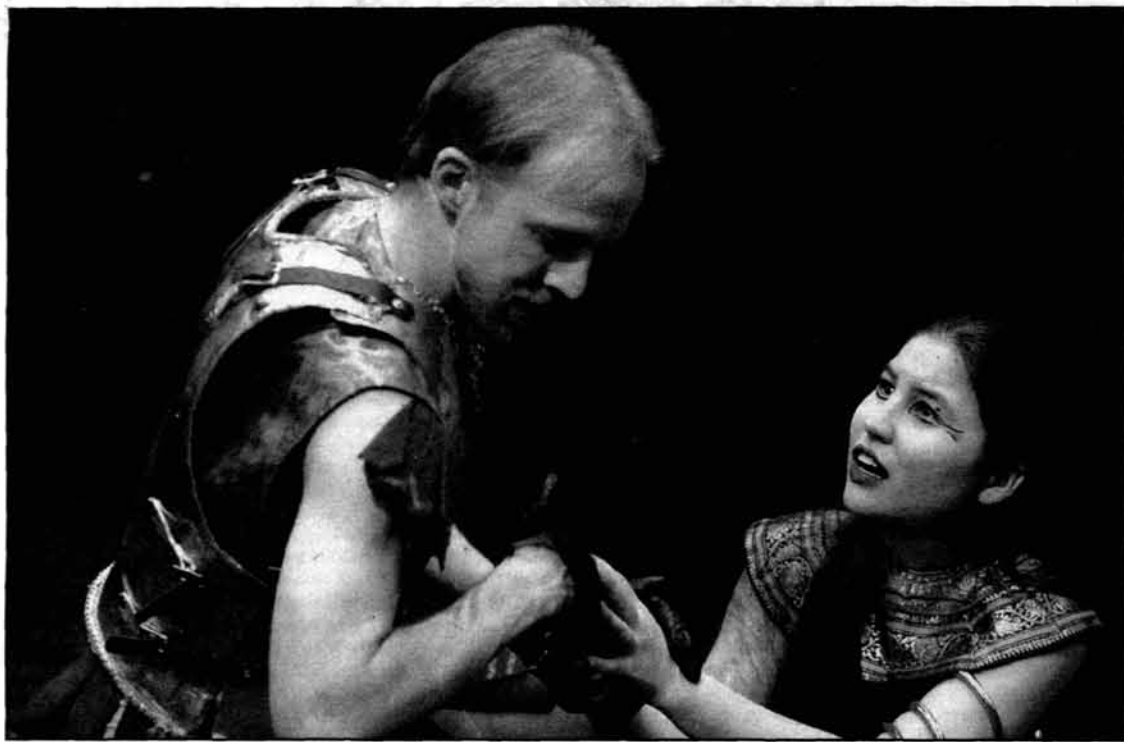
The graphic style deserves credit as well. The creatures are all cel-shaded. The thick black outlines and the uneven shading help them stand out from the background. Extra points go out for a Playstation 2 game that was anti-aliased well. The game takes place underground, so the background colors are limited to earthy, metal tones. The cel-shaded objects stand out from these backgrounds and are easy to identify.

The sounds are pretty well done, too. The few sound effects used are appropriate. The voices get a bit repetitive, especially during battle. One character depends on speech to attack, so I thank Capcom for keeping the voices in Japanese and not making a crappy English dubbing. The music matches the mood of the game very well.

Dragon Quarter deviates from the tired-and-true RPG formula that hasn't changed much since *Final Fantasy 2*. Let's hope more RPG developers rock the boat and get creative with gameplay.



Antony & Cleopatra



Lepidus (Graham E. Derryberry '05) celebrates the peace between Pompey and Caesar.

Cleopatra (Stephanie Cavagnaro-Wong '05) and Marc Antony (Bob Mussett) show their affection in the Shakespeare Ensemble's Production of *Antony & Cleopatra*. The show will run again March 20-22 at 8 p.m. in La Sala de Puerto Rico.



Charmian (Abby E. Spinak '01) mourns the death of Cleopatra (Stephanie S. Cavagnaro-Wong '05).



Alpha Phi Phlea Market
~April 4th ~ 7-11:30 pm~

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*also:

-Muse

-Death by Chocolate Buffet

*where:

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STUDENTS AND FRIENDS:

GREETING.

TO-DAY is issued the first number of our paper; and, although we tremble at the thought of the work before us, we begin it gladly. We believe that the same public spirit that founded THE TECH will sustain it to the end.

The Institute has never been rich in papers. Only one, we believe, has ever been published. Some years ago, the *Spectrum* shone for a time, but soon faded away. Still later, an attempt was made to establish another paper, but in vain; the first number never appeared.

And now comes THE TECH, asking its share of favor. Even as its predecessor, it attempts great things. It will be its aim to promote the interests of the students of the Institute, and maintain a friendly spirit among them, breaking

down the ancient barriers of class and department. It will exercise a guardian care over the members of the school, protecting the Freshman, curbing the Sophomore, correcting the Junior, and supporting the Senior in his old age. It will open an avenue for the expression of public opinion, and will aim in every possible way, to help all in the development of their young manhood and young womanhood. It is hoped, too, that it will keep the interests of the Institute before its graduates, cherishing among them the memory of their *Alma Mater*. Our brother and sister colleges, also, will become better acquainted with us through this paper.

We cannot look far into the future. We cannot tell what buds of genius may be unfolded in these columns. But even if genius does not bloom; even if the beauties of rhetoric and poetry are not developed here; even if this paper becomes, like the school it represents, only a field for plain, honest work, — we shall nevertheless be sure that the efforts we make are stepping-stones to further attainments, helping us all to the higher and nobler uses of our lives.

IT may be interesting to the graduates and friends of the Institute to know the history of this paper's formation, and its plan of management.

About a month ago, a meeting of the students was held for the purpose of considering the publication of a school paper. A committee of five was chosen, with instructions to examine the matter in detail. A week later the committee presented a report in favor of the proposed paper. The recommendations of the committee were subsequently embodied in the present form of government.

The management of THE TECH consists of a board of directors of seven, representing the

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The Tech
Established 1881

Walkout May Come Before Spring Break

War, from Page 1

war, while not a preferred option, was necessary. "I was very happy with what he said, [though] I don't want a war to happen," and it would be better if Hussein left Iraq to avoid war, said Michael Starr '06.

Students plan for walkout

Anne M. Pollock G, who is helping to plan a walkout in the event of war, said that more than 800 MIT students had pledged to join the walkout. In the meantime, "I think it's our ethical obligation to hold out hope and work for peace," she said.

The walkout will start at 11:30 a.m. the day after an invasion and will be followed by a rally at 77 Massachusetts Avenue at noon, Pollock said. After an afternoon of sign-making and arts events, walkout participants will join students from "a dozen or more" local universities and others at a Government Center rally. Pollock said the walkout may happen before war starts in order to allow students to participate before spring break.

"It's depressing to see the extent to which Bush is not listening to the world," Pollock said.

Jocelyn A. Rodal '06, another student helping to plan the walkout, said she was frightened by "the total

lack of evidence" of a link between Iraq and al-Qaida and a "lack of respect for the Iraqi people."

Purim celebrants' views mixed

Some students took time out from celebrating Purim, a Jewish holiday, to express their views.

"I disagree with the President. ... Iraq is not a threat to us," said Aaron B. Strauss G. "I don't see why we can't continue to contain" Iraq, he said, adding that he thinks the United States is jealous of French and Russian oil contracts in the region. "That's a good monetary reason," he said.

Jake P. Solomon G said that he was "not against" a war. He said that many anti-war activists had complained that U.S. oil interests drove the push toward war and that Bush's comments about oil "played into their hands." Bush warned that Iraq should not set fire to oil wells in the event of war, a remark that elicited some laughter from the Student Center crowd.

Kayla D. Jacobs '06, who said she lived in Israel for six years prior to coming to MIT, said she was worried about an attack on Israel but unsure about a war with Iraq. "Saddam has to be removed, I know that," she said. "Whether this is the right way, I don't know."

Eloranta Summer Research Fellowships

Several **\$6,000** summer research fellowships, intended to encourage challenging intellectual activity during the summer months, are available to MIT undergraduates. Areas of study or research may be in any field: science, engineering, the humanities, arts, or the social sciences. Originality is important. The planned activity must be student organized or student-directed.

All MIT undergraduates are eligible, including those whose planned research begins the summer immediately following graduation.

How to Apply: A well-written proposal presenting a concise research plan should be submitted by the deadline to the UROP Office, 7-104. At least one letter of recommendation or support for the proposed research is needed, from an MIT faculty member. This letter may accompany the proposal or be mailed separately. A budget should be included with the proposal. Award Winners are chosen by the Eloranta Fellowship Committee at the end of April.

Contact: Staff in the UROP Office, 7-104, x3-7306, <urop@mit.edu>. For additional details, please see the Eloranta website, <web.mit.edu/eloranta/>.

Deadline: April 4, 2003.

**The Tech's News
Hotline:
x3-1541**

Call for Nominations! 2003 Student Art Awards

LOUIS SUDLER
PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 award to the honoree.

LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER
STUDENT ART AWARDS

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

Please send nominations by Friday, March 21, 2003 to:
Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT
E15-205 - cohen@media.mit.edu

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Harvard-MIT Division of
Health Sciences and Technology

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Harvard Club of Boston
374 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA

HST Forum

Student Poster Session
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Plenary Session

4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

Mark B. McClellan, M.D., Ph.D.
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration

Cocktail Reception

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

RSVP 617.253.4418 or merper@mit.edu

<http://hst.mit.edu/forum/>

Petition to Face 'Uphill Battle'

Voting, from Page 1

the entire process, told the *Cambridge Chronicle* that "having the youth input in the local process will" benefit everyone.

"The idea is that we [get the vote] here first to show it can work," he said. "Our [small] group cannot support a statewide effort, but we have inspired groups all over the country."

The group has been campaigning for several years to get the vote, initially overcoming opposition from city councillors who expressed skepticism about whether the students would have sufficient maturity.

Vice Mayor Henrietta Davis said that the first petition that the students had gotten approved by the city council got stuck because "the state legislature had asked practical ques-

tions about how it would work."

Specifically, she said, the legislature requested that the issues be resolved of who would pay for the ballots, whether 17-year-olds would be allowed to run for office, and would they be allowed to nominate others to run for office.

These were "questions [the legislature] felt needed more work," Davis said, and this was one of the main reasons why the first petition did not make it to a vote.

She said that the students talked to the state representatives, however, and that the new draft of the petition addresses these issues.

Petition faces challenges in state

City Councillor Brian Murphy said that the petition will face "an uphill battle" in the Massachusetts

House of Representatives.

"The state legislature tends to be pretty conservative on expanding the franchise," he said. "The other challenge it faces this year is that [the state] is likely to be distracted by the budget crisis."

Murphy said that although he was unable to testify in favor of the petition last year, he plans on either attending the public hearing this year or sending a letter in support.

Toomey said that as of this past Friday, the petition has not been distributed to the Committee on Elections, and that currently no date has been set for a public hearing on the matter.

In the next months, Toomey said, he and city council will "push this passage [of the petition] over here" in the state legislature.



DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH

Hackers tapped into an electronic road sign on Massachusetts Ave. Monday night. The sign alternated between flashing "NERD CROSSING" and "ILTFP."

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Course XIII Reviewers Seek Student Opinions

Course XIII, from Page 1

Director of Education Assessment Barbara Masi. "Rather than discard this small, but valuable program, it is recommended that it be maintained as a model of undergraduate engineering education," Masi wrote.

Vandiver said that he believes one of the reasons why the department is being reviewed is "because [ocean engineering] has such a small undergraduate program."

"Every option has its down-sides," Vandiver said. "The point I most care about is the ability of MIT undergraduates to study naval architecture and ocean engineering at MIT ... there would need to have a degree option preserved," whether the department merges or not.

"If the department stays independent but shrinks, that's not good," Vandiver said.

"What our committee is out to do is the absolute best for MIT and ocean engineering as a discipline," Oppenheim said. "The outcome of this will hopefully be very positive."

"The message to get out there is that MIT undergraduates deserve a wide variety of choice in what they

get their degree in," Vandiver said. "It isn't just about ocean engineering, it's about ... maintaining a diversity of choice for MIT students."

Student, faculty views considered

Since the committee began meeting in September they have interviewed every member of the ocean engineering faculty and held meetings with students to get opinions. Additionally, the interim report was presented to not only Magnanti, but also to the entire Ocean Engineering faculty, said Vandiver.

"They did ask for our input ... what we thought were the strengths and weaknesses of the department and our educational program," said Kathryn S. Wasserman '04, a student in the department. "Most of the students want to keep the department [as] Course XIII, and don't want to be merged with any other department."

Members of the committee include three professors in Ocean Engineering, including Henrik Schmidt, acting department head, as well as four professors in other departments. The committee was formed at Magnanti's request.

We've Made Some Changes Spring/2003 Service Hours

Mon-Thurs	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Lobdell Food Court - NEW Dining Stations Building W20(Stratton Student Center) 2nd Floor, 81 Mass. Ave			
11am-3pm	11am-2pm		
Walker Dining Hall - NEW Dining Stations & Salad Bar Building 50, (Walker Memorial), 142 Memorial Drive - 1st Floor			
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 7:30am-11am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 7:30am-11am		
LUNCH 11am-3pm	LUNCH 11am-2pm		
Pritchett Grill - NEW Menu Building 50, (Walker Memorial), 142 Memorial Drive - 2nd Floor			
6pm-11pm	6pm-11pm	11am-11pm	11am-11pm
Pritchett Convenience Building 50, (Walker Memorial), 142 Memorial Drive - 2nd Floor			
6pm-1am	6pm-1am	11am-11pm	11am-11pm
Building 4 Coffee Shop Building 4, (Off the Infinite Corridor)			
8am-11pm	8am-3pm		
Dome Café Building 7, (Rogers Building) 77 Mass. Avenue			
8am-6pm	8am-3pm		
Sub Connection at the Bio Café - NEW Dining Experience Building 68, (Biology Building), 31 Ames Street			
8am-3pm	8am-3pm		
Bosworth's - NEW Café Lobby 7, 77 Mass. Avenue			
7:30am-5pm	7:30am-5pm		

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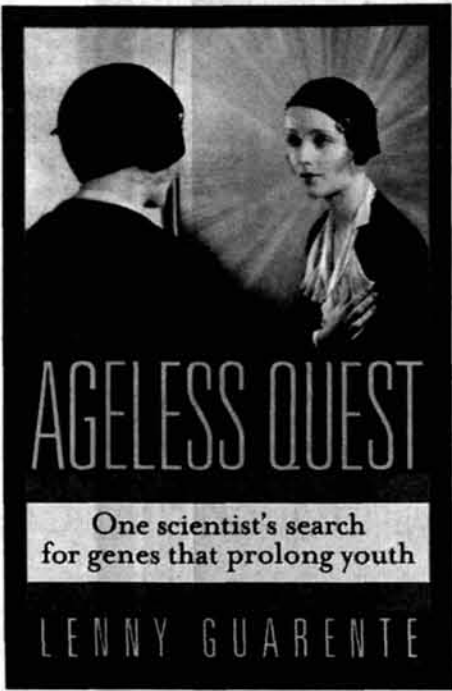
authors@mit™ presents:

Lenny Guarente

Novartis Professor of Biology, MIT

discussing his new book:

Ageless Quest One Scientist's Search for Genes that Prolong Youth



Thursday, Mar 20th, 12 - 1 pm
MIT E25-111, 45 Carleton St., near Kendall T

Join us as MIT Professor Lenny Guarente introduces his new book *Ageless Quest*, a personal and sometimes provocative account of his pursuit of a genetic "cure" for aging.

Aging has long been regarded as a highly complex process in which many degenerative changes combine to diminish vital functions. But the recent research Guarente describes in *Ageless Quest* has identified a rather simple mechanism that governs the pace of aging, slowing it down in times of scarcity. A single gene called SIR2 underlies this survival mechanism. It may well be possible to develop drugs based on SIR2 and related genes that slow aging and reduce the diseases of aging. Guarente argues that aging should be viewed as a disease for which science should seek remedies.

Lenny Guarente is the Novartis Professor of Biology at MIT.

Ageless Quest is published by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2003.

This event is FREE and wheelchair accessible.

authors@mit™ is a series cosponsored by MIT Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore
Info: (617) 253-5249, or web.mit.edu/bookstore/www/events/ Map: whereis.mit.edu

The Flona Karmel Writing Prizes

The Writing Prizes

Competition Deadline:
April 4, 2003

Cash prizes awarded in the categories of:

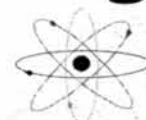
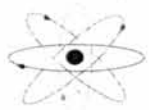
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Open House - Wednesday, March 19th, 2-4pm in the Bush Room

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Coop Student Board Election

The following student Coop members are candidates for election to the Coop Board of Directors for the 2003-04 academic year.

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Vote online at www.thecoop.com

M.I.T. UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS:

Michael Leison (Graduate)
Pius Uzamere (Undergraduate)
Mark Kim (Graduate)
Keren Rimón (Graduate)

HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

Andreea Stefanescu
Christina Adams
Adam Gordon
Joseph Bress
Ashley B.T. Ma
Divya K. Narendra
Erica Jalli

HARVARD GRADUATE STUDENTS:

Yael Hadass GSAS
Barbary Cook KSG
Torarie Durden HBS



Vote online or pick up a paper ballot at any Coop store. Voting deadline is April 4th, 2003.

queer as folk



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Thursday, March 20 @ 7:30 pm,
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<http://web.mit.edu/glb-coffee/www>

MIT Pass Program May Hike Prices

Fare Hike, from Page 1

ving.
The MBTA maintains that Boston public transportation fares are still the lowest in the country. Subway fare for New York City is currently at \$2.

Fare increases may affect MIT

The Office of Parking and Transportation is not sure how the new rates will affect subsidized passes for students, faculty, and staff.

Joe Pesatore, a MBTA representative, said that he is also unsure of how the new rates will affect semester passes.

"If it is increased I assume that the rates will go up," said Larry R. Brutti, operations manager of the parking and transportation office.

In September 2000, the MBTA raised T fares by 25 percent. The rate hike was the first since 1991. The rates were established to increase revenue after the Massachusetts legislature changed the way the MBTA received funding.

In 2000, the MBTA allowed local institutions a two-month grace period to readjust their subsidized T passes.

During this period, MIT T passes went up from \$7.50 to \$9.50 for a bus pass, \$13.50 to \$17.50 for a subway pass, and \$23.00 to \$28.50 for a combo pass.

Solution to Chessmate

from page 8

1. Nf6+ Bxf6 2. Bxc6 winning a queen

Solution to Crossword

from page 8

ELSE	ALOT	PHASE
BULL	SARA	RESOD
BLUE	SWIM	ICING
SURPRISE	PACKAGE	
HAS	LABEL	
BATAVIA	ODESSA	
ALONE	PLOD	MAN
LITTLES	SOMETHING	
EVE	NEGS	HOLDS
REDBUD	KEENEST	
USERS	ARE	
BIRTHDAY	PRESENT	
ACUTE	WREN	TREE
SENIOR	LURE	LIAR
EDENS	SPUR	YETI

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2003 Awards Convocation It's Not Too Late...Deadline Friday 3/21

<http://mit.edu/awards>
email nominations:
awards@mit.edu
or send to
Awards Comm. W20-549

MIT Department of FACILITIES CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Simmons Hall
The kitchen and dining rooms are in full dinner operation. The atrium window work is complete. Work on the parking lot is underway.

Stata Center
Installation of sheet piles is underway. This work may create vibrations and noise disturbances. The work is scheduled to take place from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will last for approximately two weeks. Following the installation of the sheet piles, excavation of the site will begin. Due to soil conditions at this location, sulfurous odors may occur during excavation. Air fresheners are available through Rob McDevitt at ext. 8-6503. Beginning March 17, the Alumni Pool will be accessible only from Building 16/56.

Dreyfus Chemistry Building
Repair work on the east concrete facade is nearing completion. Installation of mechanical systems continues. Demobilization of the construction staging area is being planned and removal of most of the trailers will take place later this spring.

Brain and Cognitive Sciences Project
The decorative butterflies have been transferred from Building 45 to Building 44. Interior demolition of Building 45 is underway and will continue for several weeks. Demolition of the exterior shell will take place in late March/early April.

MDC Memorial Drive Rehabilitation Project
The MDC has begun the first phase of this rehabilitation project. The primary change is the reclaiming of 16-20 feet of parkland in front of MIT. 200 parking spaces and the third eastbound travel lane in front of MIT will be eliminated. Traffic lights will also be installed at the intersection of the Mass. Ave. bridge and Memorial Drive off-ramps. The demolition of the Mass. Ave. median and work near the Ames and Wadsworth medians has begun. No left turns are currently permitted at Mass. Ave. and Memorial Drive.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>
This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.

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SPORTS

Ballroom Takes 1st, 2nd in International

By Carrie Sougnez

TEAM MEMBER

At the Harvard Invitational Ballroom Dance Competition last weekend, the MIT Ballroom Dance Team proved itself to be the strongest all-around team in the North East, as well as boasting some of the strongest individual couples.

The region's second-to-last major competition of the season, and one of the most prestigious, it attracts the most serious competitors in the Championship and Pre-Championship divisions, making it one of the most exciting competitions for spectators.

As at a track meet, each Ballroom Dance event is based on individual performance, so that in most divisions, MIT couples are competing against one another instead of working together. The one exception to this is the team match, where each university can select its best couples to compete together in a special four-couple combined event.

The MIT Ballroom Dance Team was able to dance their way into the final placing first and second in the International Style Team Match. Dancing on the winning team were the following Igor V. Pavlovsky G and Yan-feng Lim G in the Quickstep, Dejan Mircevski and Maria Minkoff G in the Waltz, Carlos A. Lopez '03 and Genevieve Cuervas '03 in the Cha Cha, and Boris Berdnikov and Carrie Sougnez in the Jive.

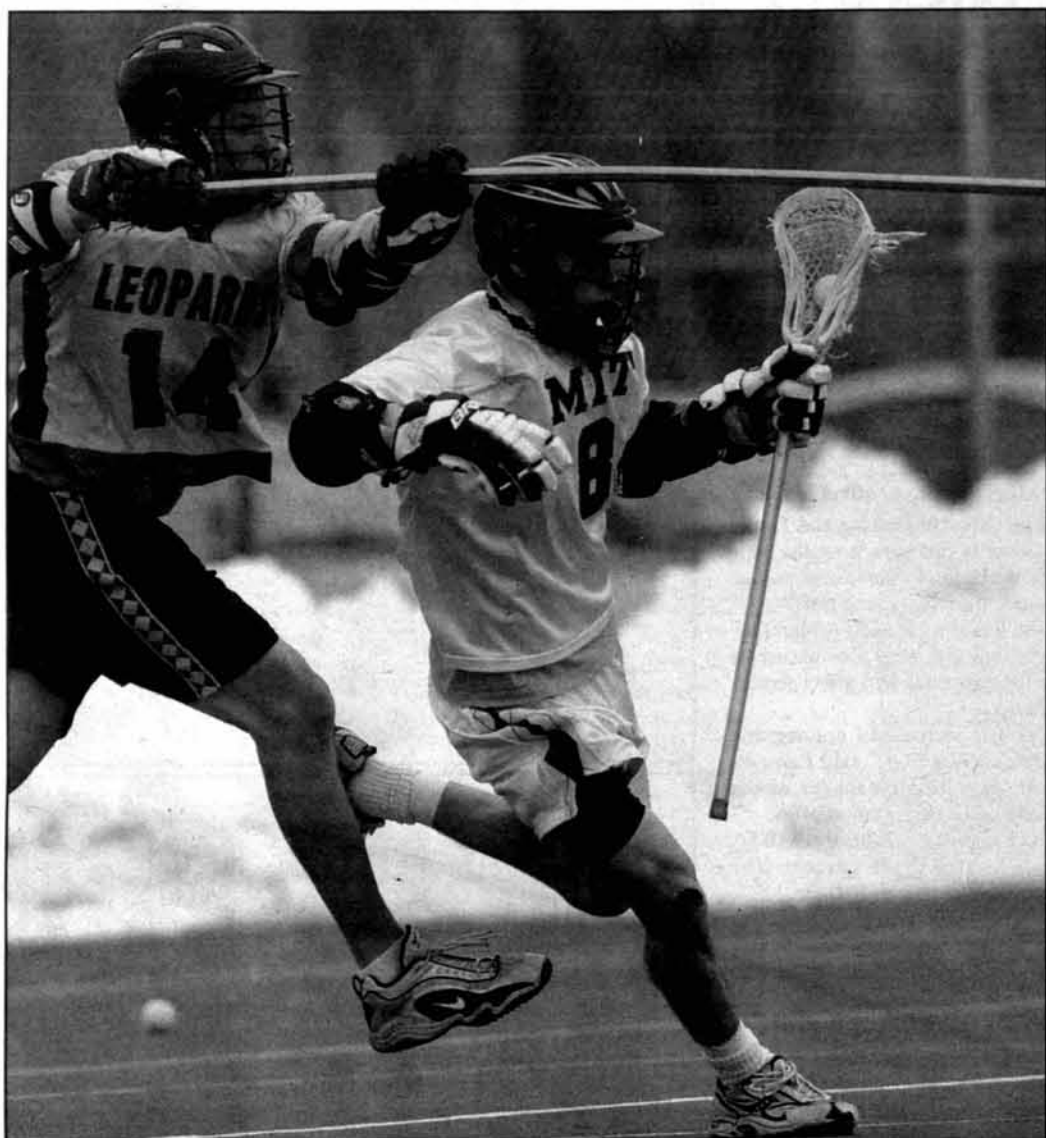
In the latin events, MIT Ballroom dance team continued to show improved competition results. George Henes (CMI) and Lilia Wood are showing remarkable progress in their latin dancing, placing fourth in Intermediate Cha Cha/Rumba/ Samba, and sixth in the Advanced Cha Cha/ Rumba events. Wood is a newcomer to dancing and has been training for only eight months so this result is an exceptional placing for Henes and Wood.

The latin success continued later in the day when Carlos Lopez and Genevieve Cuervas, the stars of MIT's latin dancing team, placed sixth in the Pre-Championship Latin event. Lopez's and Cuervas' dedication to dancing has started to show real results in their competition dancing. Traveling to New York twice a month for new choreography, Lopez and Cuervas are dancing sophisticated routines that showcase latin dancing in its purest and finest form.

There were many more great performances from dancers of all levels and in the end the Harvard Invitational was a great success for the MIT Ballroom Dance Team.

There will be no rest for the weary dancers, however.

The team is already preparing for their next competitive showing at the MIT Competition next month. The team enthusiastically invites spectators to the competition held April 5 and 6 in DuPont. For more information, visit <http://ballroom.mit.edu/comp>.



MING-TAI HUI—THE TECH

Attack Thomas V. Hennessey III '05 evades a Wentworth defender during Saturday's matchup on the Jack Barry turf. MIT won 7-6.

Figure Skating Exhibition Features MIT Students, Guests

By Diana Cheng

TEAM MEMBER

MIT's figure skating club held its annual United States Figure Skating Association sanctioned exhibition on Saturday, March 15, at Johnson Rink. Thirty-four programs included group numbers, synchronized skating, pairs freestyle, ice dance, and solo programs. Nineteen MIT students performed, along with MIT alumni, employees, community members, and guest skaters from three local figure skating clubs.

The opening number had 16 participants who skated to the music of "I Said I Love You" with various highlights, including straight-line jumps, a pairs death spiral, lunges, and spirals. The number ended with a pinwheel formation.

Another group number was the linear progressions synchronized

skating program to "Beep Beep," choreographed by Bonny S. Kellermann '72, with its signature kick-line. Synchro team members included Susan Alpert, Jesse M. Chen '03, Diana S. Cheng '04, Delphine M.D. Dean G, Jessica A. Eisenstein '06, John B. Gonzalez '04, Allison H. Mo '03, and Elliot Schwartz '89.

Group ice dances included the swing dance from the beginner's ice dance group lessons, and the Silver Tango from the advanced ice dance group lessons. Each group ice dance had several pairs of skaters performing the patterns simultaneously.

Finnish National Champions Jessica R. Huot '06 and Juha S. Valkama '06 performed their original dance program to the music of Chopin's "Fantasie Impromptu," a program that they will show next week at the World Championships. Their speed and dance lifts appeared effortless as they whizzed around

the rink. MIT alum Gilbert Chiang SM '82 and his wife April, who represent the Skating Club of San Francisco and are the 2002 champions in Adult Dance, performed their newest original dance program that they will use to compete in the 2003 Adult Nationals.

Guest skaters Lara and Neil Shelton, the current New England Regional Intermediate Pairs champions who represent Colonial Figure Skating Club, had several beautiful lifts in their program to "Escape." Cheng and Mickey Barry, a Draper Labs employee, just started skating pairs last year and performed their first program to "Attack" from the movie *Pearl Harbor*.

Solo programs

The exhibition also featured 27 individual free skate and interpretive programs, including those of 10 figure skating team members.

Christina E. Mills G skated her

first program at the show. She has only been skating for a little more than a year.

Eisenstein choreographed her own program with vocals, to "Spies" by Coldplay. Caitlin Q. Marlow '03 skated a fun program to "Friend Like Me" from Disney's *Aladdin*.

Guest skaters from the Skating Club of Boston Carly Milden and

Stephen Carriere also performed solos. Sarah Farley from the New England Figure Skating Club performed her junior-level program to "I Will Survive."

Next Tuesday, the figure skating club will hold a USFSA test session and next Saturday, the figure skating club will host the USFSA-sanctioned Eastern Small Team competition for teams of 15 skaters or less.

MIT's Interruption

By Eric Rosenblatt

COLUMNIST

Welcome to everything sports in this new column keeping you posted on what's hot and what's not (aside from the Red Sox) in the way of the primetime American sports. This does not include golf; I would prefer if 'Tiger' didn't show up every sixth word.

NBA playoffs in the east

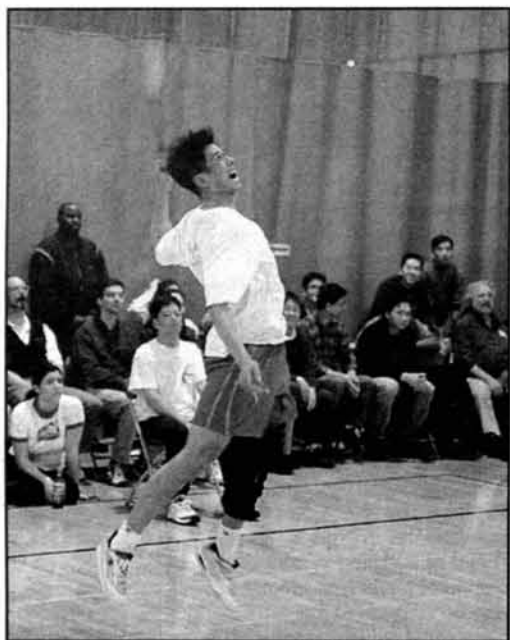
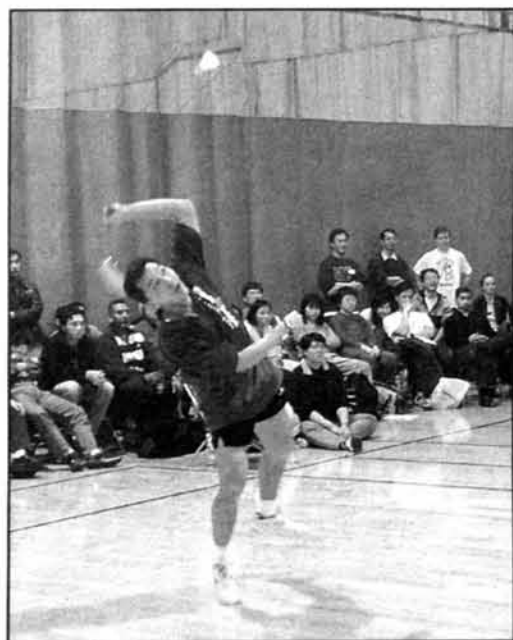
The NBA playoffs are right around the corner, which means Jordan is getting antsy. Now only a game out of the last spot in the East, the Wizards are looking like they may take the Bucks, who still seem to be searching for an identity after their trade for Payton. The Magic are also not a sure thing, now only a half-game up on the Bucks. They have a tough end-of-season schedule and rely heavily on TMac, who has been every fantasy NBA players' fantasy this season but has had to do it all alone. However, the trade for Giricek and Gooden has strengthened their team and has taken some of the pressure off TMac (although less pressure means scoring 30 instead of 38 to have a shot at a win).

My Take: TMac and Jordan pull it through; Payton eats cheese all summer in Milwaukee.

Moving west

To the West we go, where, dare I say it, the Warriors are in the playoff hunt. They have a group of young guns who are motivated and eager to show their skills, probably so that they can leave the Warriors. They play a similar style of energetic basketball that the Clippers had last year (it seems this year the Clips have decided on a season of humiliation = LeBron) which has resulted in surprising wins and a possible playoff berth. The Warriors are battling the Rockets and the Suns for the last playoff spot, two teams who also rely on their young guns for wins: Yao in Houston and Amare in Phoenix. Yao is not very consistent, however, as he continues to adapt to the American style of play. Until he adds power to his finesse game, Steve Franchise will have to continue hitting buzzer-beater after buzzer-beater. The Suns look solid with Marbury and Marion putting up good numbers every night.

My Take: Warriors don't make it; they are after all the Warriors. Amare gets rookie of the year.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Andy Chong (left) and Chibing Wu play in the 2002 Boston Open badminton tournament, which took place from Friday to Sunday in Rockwell Cage. Chong and Wu won the tournament for Men's Doubles, defeating Canadian opponents Mike Beres and Kyle Hunter 13-15, 15-9, 15-8.